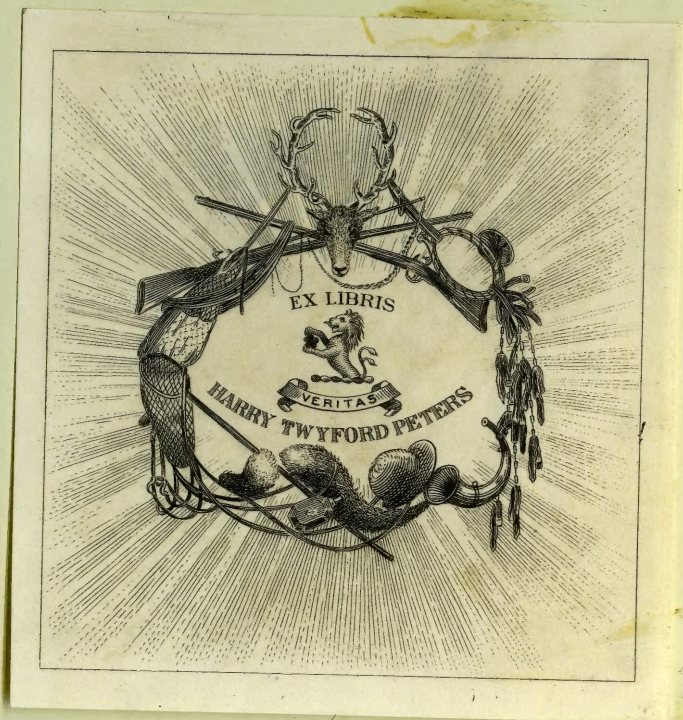
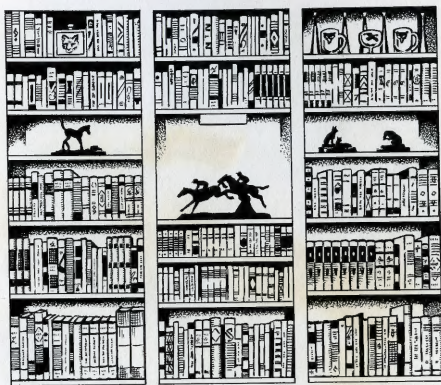


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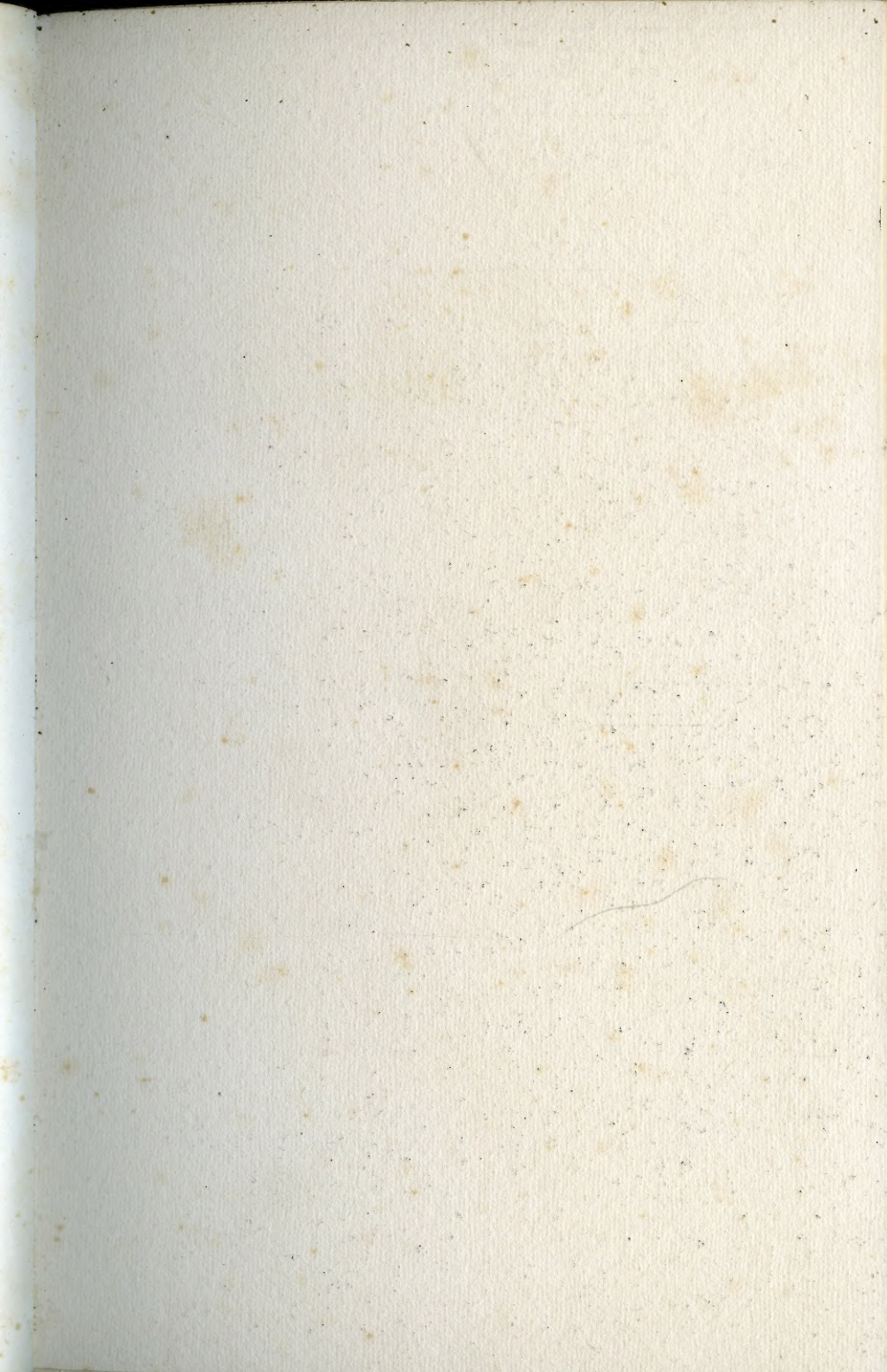




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HUNTING JOURNAL

KEPT BY

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AT

NEWPORT LODGE, MELTON MOWBRAY,

DURING VARIOUS YEARS

BETWEEN 1845 & 1866

WITH THE

BELVOIR, QUORN AND COTTESMORE HOUNDS.

PRIVATELY PRINTED.

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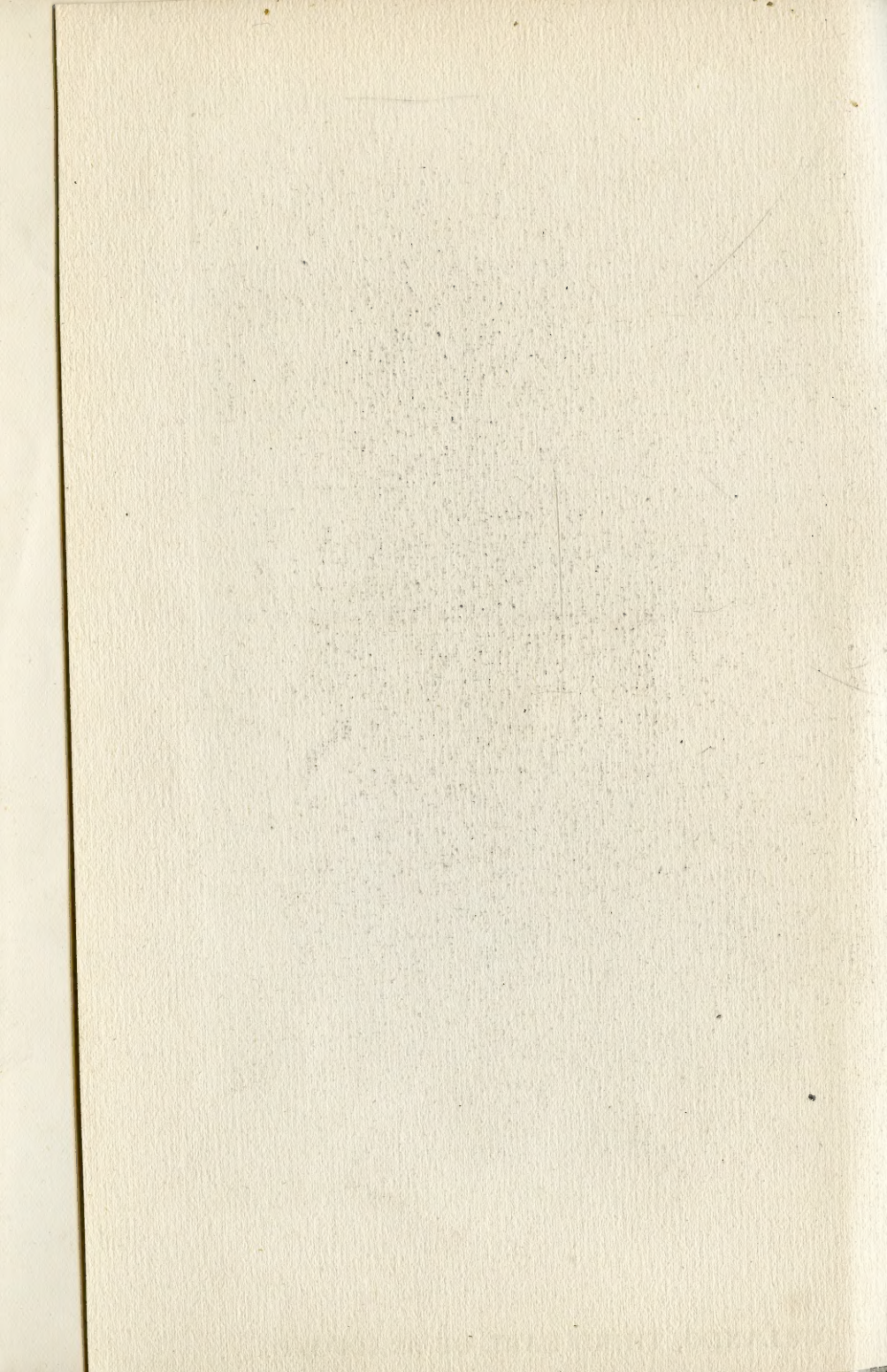
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ORLANDO, THIRD EARL OF BRADFORD.



MELTON,

1845—6.*

Monday, Nov. 24th.

Belvoir—Croxtan Park.

FOUND at Coston Gorse, ran for 20 minutes very fast indeed up to Stapleford Park; the hounds were cast round to the other side of the park, where they hit him off, and ran for an hour and a-half, at times tolerably fast, and lost him close to Cottesmore.

“The Engineer.”

“Robin Hood,” 2nd horse.

Tuesday, Nov. 25th.

Cottesmore—Egleton.

Found at a gorse—Manton covert, two miles this side of Uppingham; 1 hour and 35 minutes, and killed in Owston Wood: 45 minutes of it were very fast indeed—altogether a capital run over a fine line of country.

“Tom of Lincoln.”

	Height.			Girth.
	hands.	in.		ft. in.
* “Intrepid”	15	3½	.	5 9
“The Engineer”	15	3¼	.	5 7
“Wamba”	15	3	.	5 8
“Teddy the Tiler”	15	1½	.	5 7¾
“Tom of Lincoln”	15	1¼	.	5 6¾
“The Hind”	15	0½	.	5 7¾
“Robin Hood”	15	0¼	.	5 8½

1845]

(4)

Wednesday, Nov. 26th.

Belvoir—Harby.

Found at Harby covert, and ran to ground almost directly; found another fox, but did not do much.

“Intrepid.”

Thursday, Nov. 27th.

Did not hunt. *Quorn* at Keythorpe, had no sport.

Friday, Nov. 28th.

Quorn—Ratcliffe.

Found at Cossington Gorse, and ran for 2 hours, but very slow; changed foxes at Thrussington, but did nothing worth mention.

“The Hind.”

Saturday, Nov. 29th.

Cottesmore—Leesthorpe.

Drew the Punch-bowl blank, and did not find till we got to Owston Wood; ran very fast for 19 minutes up to Ranksborough Hill, where he was headed; hunted him for an hour or more afterwards, back to the woods and round about, and then gave it up.

“Wamba.”

“Robin Hood,” 2nd horse.

Monday, Dec. 1st.

Belvoir—Croxtan Park.

Found at Sproxtan Thorns, but lost him almost directly. Found at Herring’s Gorse, and after a long hunting run of $2\frac{1}{4}$ hours killed in the open at Little Ponton; very slow up to Easton Park, after which they ran very fast for about 40 minutes: owing to being on the wrong side of the wood,

I did not see the best part, but caught them again as they were going up to Little Ponton Wood.

“Tom of Lincoln.”

Tuesday, Dec. 2nd.

Did not hunt. Sir R. Sutton at Glaston; they did not find till past three o'clock; ran for 30 minutes and were stopped by the dark.

Thursday, Dec. 4th.

Quorn——Billesdon.

Found at Glen Gorse, and killed at Loddington, after a fine run up of nearly 2 hours; the first 30 minutes up to Rolleston was very good; he stayed some time in Loddington Redish, but went away again, running through the wood and one of the Launde woods, and was killed in the open at Loddington.

“The Hind.”

“Intrepid,” 2nd horse.

Friday, Dec. 5th.

Cottesmore——Tilton.

Found at Tilton Wood, and ran in a sort of way up to the kitchen garden at Loddington, where they lost him. Found another fox in a spinney between Loddington and Allextan, but could do nothing with him. A wild, blowing day; no scent at all.

“The Engineer.”

“Robin Hood,” 2nd horse.

Saturday, Dec. 6th.

Quorn——Brooksby.

Killed a fox at Cream Lodge Gorse. Found at Ashby Pasture, and ran by Thorpe Trussels up to Burrow Hill,

where we lost him. Found at Gartree Hill and ran to ground in a drain at Little Dalby. A cold day and no scent down wind.

“Wamba.”

Sir R. Sutton's hounds met at Langham; found a fox at Ranksborough, ran through Overton Park Wood, and killed at Little Dalby: 55 minutes, very good indeed. They killed their fox at Little Dalby about the same time we were there, having hunted our fox very slowly into a drain. I chiefly account for the difference of the sport from the Quorn fox having run down wind, and the Cottesmore fox up.

Monday, Dec. 8th.

Belvoir—Croxtan Park.

Found a fox at Coston Gorse, ran up to Stapleford, where he turned to the left without crossing the canal, and we ran him down to a small covert by the Whissendine Brook; he then turned back, and they ran him back by Garthorpe to Coston Gorse and up to Woodwell Head, where they lost him, and it was then dark. The first 35 minutes up to the Whissendine was very pretty, afterwards it was all slow hunting.

“Robin Hood.”

Tuesday, Dec. 9th.

Cottesmore—Ayston.

Killed a fox in Beaumont Chase. Drew Stoke End, Pilton and other places, but could not find another fox.

“Wamba.”

Wednesday, Dec. 10th.

Belvoir—Piper Hole.

Found at Clawson Thorns, ran by Holwell Mouth up to Goodricke's Gorse 25 minutes, where he was headed, and

they checked for some time; ran back by Melton Lodge and the Old Hills, and killed at Holwell village; altogether 1 hour and 5 minutes. As they were going to draw again a fox was tally-ho'd in a stubble field, ran him up to Melton Spinney, past Freeby Wood up to Freeby village, where they gave it up. There was a great deal of very pretty hunting, particularly with the afternoon fox, and the hounds did their work beautifully, notwithstanding there were once or twice two or three foxes on foot, and a great deal of holloing from the pedestrians all day.

“The Hind.”

“Intrepid,” 2nd horse.

Thursday, Dec. 11th.

Quorn—Baggrave.

Drew Barkby Holt blank; found at Baggrave Spinney and ran to Lowesby, fastish—I believe about 25 minutes—a little beyond which we lost him. Found another fox in the new cover at John o' Gaunt, ran up to Owston Wood, thence through Launde Wood to Loddington Redish, where they lost him.

“Teddy the Tiler.”

“Tom of Lincoln.”

Friday, Dec. 12th.

Quorn—Wartnaby Stone Pits.

Found at Goodricke's Gorse, and ran up to Grimston village very fast, 16 minutes, where they checked, turned to the right by Grimston Gorse, Old Dalby, and Little Belvoir, then to the right again by Holwell and the Old Hills, and killed across the turnpike road just opposite to Melton Lodge; 1 hour and 25 minutes altogether. Drew Grimston Gorse, found two or three foxes, ran up to Old Dalby, where I believe he was headed and went back again, when they gave it up.

“The Engineer.”

“Robin Hood.”

Monday, Dec. 15th.

Belvoir—Hose Village.

Found at Hose Gorse; ran a ring of 15 minutes, and to ground in a drain; they dug him out and killed him. Found at Clawson Thorns a ringing fox: he ran backwards and forwards, passing twice through Piper Hole, and they ran him to ground in a drain; 36 minutes altogether. There was a capital scent, and the hounds ran very fast at times. Found a third fox at Scalford Bogs, ran by Melton Spinney and up to Thorpe Arnold, when they checked at the road for some time, and never could get near enough to their fox to run afterwards. They ran up to Melton Spinney very fast indeed, about 9 minutes. Afterwards drew Freeby Wood and Waltham Pasture blank.

“The Hind.”

“Intrepid.”

Tuesday, Dec. 16th.

Cottesmore—Brook Hall.

Found at Prior's Coppice, ran almost to Belton village, where he turned to the left and they ran him to Wardley Wood, checking at the Leicester road, after which they never did much with their fox; they ran a good holding pace up to the turnpike road, about 20 minutes, 10 minutes of it very fast; a stiff line of country. They hunted their fox through Wardley Wood to Stoke End, where they changed foxes, and ran through Stockerston Wood to Easton Park, where they lost him, and then gave it up.

“Wamba.”

Wednesday, Dec. 17th.

Belvoir—Croxtan Park.

Found at Sproxton Thorns, ran by Stonesby and Waltham village across to Goadby, leaving Goadby Park on the right,

where he turned to the left and went by Scalford Bogs and back by Waltham Thorns, through Sproxton Thorns, ran through the covert and was killed at Stonesby village; 1 hour and 20 minutes, it was about 40 minutes to Scalford Bogs—very good pace, and from Scalford back to Waltham Thorns was also very fast. If they never changed foxes, which I do not believe they did, he must have been one of the stoutest foxes that ever lived before hounds.

“Tom of Lincoln.”

Friday, Dec. 19th.

Cottesmore—Eggleton.

Drew Manton Gorse and stick covert blank, and Preston Gorse blank. Found at Gibbet's Gorse; a good scent, and hounds ran fast for 4 or 5 minutes; but they checked in a wood in the bottom between the Gorse and Burley, and the fox got away from them; they hunted him slowly as far as Empingham Wood, where I left them. A wet, stormy day.

“Teddy the Tiler.”

Saturday, Dec. 20th.

Cottesmore—Tilton.

Found in Tilton Wood, but could do nothing with our fox. Drew Launde Wood without finding. Found at Owston Wood at about two o'clock, ran through Lady Wood, where there was a short check, to Overton Park Wood, where he headed back, and leaving Launde Wood on the right and Prior's Coppice on the left, ran by Burgess' Lodge to Allexton Wood, where we got into difficulty by a fresh fox being hollo'd away; and after trying to regain the scent of our hunted fox, who I believe went away again for Wardley Wood, gave it up. From Owston Wood to Allexton Wood was altogether 1 hour and 20 minutes, and I should think that from Overton Park to Allexton was about 50 minutes—

a holding pace all the way without a check worth mentioning, and at times they ran very fast.

“The Engineer.”

“Tom of Lincoln.”

Tuesday, Dec. 23rd.

Cottesmore—Ayston.

A blank day. Drew Wardley Wood, Stoke End, Bisbrook Gorse, and one or two other places.

“Wamba.”

* George: “Intrepid.”

Wednesday, Dec. 24th.

Quorn—Billesdon.

Drew Botany Bay, Scraptoft, Barkby Holt and Ashby Pasture, all blank. Found at Cream Lodge, ran for two fields and lost him. Found at Thorpe Trussels, and ran through Ashby Pasture and to ground at Ashby Folville; 20 minutes from the time he was found. The scurry from Ashby Pasture, 9 or 10 minutes, was very fast indeed.

“Teddy the Tiler.”

“The Hind.”

George: “Robin Hood.”

Friday, Dec. 26th.

Cottesmore—Burley-on-the-Hill.

Drew Ranksborough and killed a fox in the gorse. Drew Overton Park Wood without finding. Found in Owston Wood, and after running in the covert for some time went away by Owston village to Burrow Hill, where they turned to the right and lost him near Little Dalby. Drew the

* Hon. George T. O. Bridgeman.

spinneys near Burton, but did not find again. I did not get away from Owston Wood, and saw no part of the run.

“The Engineer.”

“Wamba.”

Saturday, Dec. 27th.

Belvoir—Waltham.

Killed a fox in Goadby Gorse, and ran another a few fields, when he went to ground. Found at Melton Spinney, and ran fastish by Thorpe Arnold, across the canal to a spinney very near Little Dalby Hall, where he waited for them, and then turned back and ran by Burton Lazars, a little beyond which they lost him. Found again in Freeby Wood, and, after running a ring of a few fields, lost him, and gave it up.

“Tom of Lincoln.”

George: “Intrepid.”

Monday, Dec. 29th.

Did not hunt. The *Quorn* met at Holt, and had a run of 1 hour and 20 minutes over a magnificent country. The pace was not good.

Tuesday, Dec. 30th.

Cottesmore—Launde Abbey.

Drew Launde Wood blank. Found at Tilton Wood, and hunted our fox very slowly as far as the Allextion Brook, when we gave it up. It was blowing a gale all day.

“Wamba.”

Wednesday, Dec. 31st.

Belvoir—Hose Grange.

Found at Key Wood, and ran a ring by Colston Basset, where he turned to the left and pointed as if for Clawson

village, but turned back, and we lost him at Colston village. I suppose we hunted him altogether for three-quarters of an hour, but the first 20 minutes was very fast and very pretty. Drew Hose Gorse and Harby Covert, but did not find.

“Tom of Lincoln.”

“Robin Hood.”

George: “The Hind.”

Thursday, Jan. 1st, 1846.

Quorn——Great Dalby.

Drew Gartree Hill blank; found at Burdett's Covert a capital fox, we ran him tolerably fast by Burrow Hill and the Punch-bowl to Somerby and a field or two over the road towards Cold Overton, where we lost him. Drew Thorpe Trussells and Ashby Pasture blank, found in the spinney between Ashby Pasture and Cream Lodge; ran him in view over three fields, and killed him at Ashby Pasture, in the covert. Drew Cream Lodge Gorse, and after hunting a fox backwards and forwards in the gorse for half an hour, they gave it up and left him.

“Teddy the Tiler.”

“Intrepid.”

Friday, Jan. 2nd.

Cottesmore——Leesthorpe.

Drew the Little Dalby plantations and Punch-bowl blank. Did not find till we got to Owston Wood, where we found the best and wildest fox I have seen for many a day; he went away by Withcote, leaving Launde Abbey to the right, skirting Prior's Coppice, leaving it just on the left, by Lye Lodge (up to which the pace was very good, 22 minutes), to Wardley Wood, out at the other side of the wood, through the left-hand corner of Stoke End, and away to the Welland, which he evidently meant to cross and go to the Forest. Most of field waited outside Wardley Wood and never came

up again. I waited a short time and did not leave the wood till the hounds were gone more than a mile, and caught them a few fields before they got to Lyddington, after which it was all slow hunting; the fox had evidently tried to cross the Welland, which was very much flooded; they hit him off again close to Lyddington, and ran to Seaton Gorse, and on by Seaton village across about two miles or more of open country, chiefly plough, to Barrowden village, when it was quite dark, and we were obliged to give him up. The hounds persevered to the last as if they meant to kill him, but he was too good for them, and we left him with his head pointing straight away over a wild open country towards Barrowden Hay; the point must have been 14 or 15 miles.

“The Engineer.”

“Wamba.”

Saturday, Jan. 3rd.

Did not hunt. Sir R. Sutton had a good run from Gibbet's Gorse to Wakerley Wood; 50 minutes.

Monday, Jan. 5th.

Belvoir—Piper Hole.

A frosty morning. Did not hunt till 12 o'clock. Drew Clawson Thorns blank; found at Holwell Mouth, ran to ground in a drain two or three fields from the covert; got him out and ran by Clawson Thorns to Kettleby, then back almost into Melton town, and up to Goodricke's Gorse. By the time we got to Goodricke's Gorse it was almost a quarter to four o'clock. A fresh fox went away from the Gorse, and they ran him for about 20 or 25 minutes very fast to Welby, a little beyond which he turned to the left and went by Ashfordby, when we crossed the river and the canal, across the Leicester Road, and the hounds were stopped close by Cream Lodge Gorse at about half-past four o'clock. The last half hour it was very dark and freezing sharp.

“Robin Hood.”

“Miss Potter.”

Tuesday, Jan. 6th.

Cottesmore——*Loddington*.

Found at *Loddington Redish*. The hounds ran very fast up to *Launde Wood*, where they divided, and we never did any good afterwards. They hunted back through *Loddington Redish* as far as *Vow's Gorse*, and then went and drew *Allextan Wood* and *Wardley Wood*, but did not find again.

“*Teddy the Tiler.*”“*Intrepid.*”

Wednesday, Jan. 7th.

Belvoir——*Croxton Park*.

We were all late, supposing that they did not hunt till twelve o'clock, and found the hounds running into the park, having found a fox in a plantation close to the stables, and ran a ring of 10 or 15 minutes. They hunted him down into the vale, where they lost him. Went to *Goadby Gorse*, where we found, and got away on good terms with our fox; but the scent was wretched, and we hunted him slowly up to *Croxton Park*, where he was lost. Found again at *Newman's Gorse*, and again got away very well with our fox, ran him fastish for 5 or 10 minutes, but with frequent checks, and lost him near *Saltby village*.

“*Tom of Lincoln.*”“*The Hind.*”

Thursday, Jan. 8th.

Quorn——*Rolleston*.

Chopped a fox in *Rolleston Gorse*. Another fox went away, ran him a few fields and then Day gave him up. Found at *Shankton Holt* and ran through the *Hardwicks*, through *Rolleston Gorse* to *Loddington Redish* (a very pretty burst), and on to *Launde Woods*, where they lost him. There was a capital scent, and the hounds ran fast at times; but there

were three or four checks. They found again at Fallow Closes, but I did not stay for it.

“Wamba.”

“Intrepid.”

Friday, Jan. 9th.

Quorn——*Ratcliffe*.

Found at Cossington Gorse and ran to Burton-on-the Wolds, where we lost him. Found at Walton Thorns, ran through Thrussington Wolds, by Ragdale, leaving Shoby Scholes and Lord Aylesford's Gorse on the left, through Grimston Gorse to Holwell Mouth, where he went to ground. There was a capital scent, and they ran fast, but changed their fox (I think) twice—once at Thrussington Wolds and once at Grimston Gorse, and were often in difficulty owing to there being two or more scents. They were also a long time running up to him after he was beat, and turning up and down every hedgerow. It was altogether 2 hours.

“The Engineer.”

“Robin Hood.”

Saturday, Jan. 10th.

Cottesmore——*Market Overton*.

Found at Woodwell Head, ran through Edmonthorpe village, where there was a short check, leaving Wymondham just on the left, up to Coston Gorse, 17 minutes; very good indeed. In the Gorse there were soon two foxes on foot; they ran in the Gorse for a short time, and went away with (I have no doubt) a fresh fox, ran through Buckminster Park on the left-hand side of the Park, after leaving which they turned to the right, left Skillington Mill and Colsterworth to the left, and ran up to Witham Wood, through the wood, and through another small wood to Morkery Wood, where he went to ground in a rabbit-hole, and was dug out and killed. It was exactly an hour from Coston Gorse to Morkery Wood;

the pace good the whole way, and at times very fast. From the time of leaving Woodwell Head to Morkery Wood was 1 hour and 32 minutes.

“Teddy the Tiler.”

“The Hind.”

Monday, Jan. 12th.

Belvoir—Croxtan Park.

Found at Sproxtan Thorns, ran over three fields, and to ground in a drain. Drew Coston Gorse (naturally) blank. Found at Newman's Gorse, and ran by Waltham into Croxtan Park, slow hunting, where we lost him. Chopped a fox in a plantation in the park, and then went to Goadby Park where we found, ran to Long Clawson village at a very pretty pace, with one or two trifling checks; at Clawson there was a check, after which we did not run very fast, but hunted him up to Hose Gorse and on to Colston Bassett, where the hounds were stopped at nearly 5 o'clock.

“Tom of Lincoln.”

“Intrepid.”

Tuesday, Jan. 13th.

Went to Salop and came back Thursday. Sir R. Sutton at Brooke, but had no sport.

Thursday, Jan. 15th.

Quorn—Baggrave.

Drew the Baggrave Spinnies, John o' Gaunt, Botany Bay, Thorpe Trussels, Ashby Pasture and Cream Lodge Gorse, all blank! Found a brace (I believe) of foxes in one of the Brooksby Spinnies, and they ran very fast over a few fields, when there were, apparently, two scents, and we could do no more good. One fox, however, was viewed into Cream Lodge

Gorse, and the hounds laid on: he went away and we ran by Gaddesby village and back again to Brooksby village, slow, where I left them and came home.

“Wamba.”

“The Hind.”

Friday, Jan. 16th.

Quorn—Wartnaby Stone Pits.

Found two or three foxes at Goodricke's Gorse, but could not get the hounds to settle with any. Found at Grimston Gorse and ran very fast to Kettleby and on to Holwell, where they lost him. Drew Holwell Mouth, but did not find. Went to Lord Aylesford's Gorse, where we found. The fox did not run straight; but there was a capital scent, and they ran very fast through Thrussington Wolds to within two fields of Walton Thorns, when he headed back and they lost him somewhere near Shoby Scholes. I got a fall, which laid me up for the next day.

“The Engineer.”

“Robin Hood.”

Monday, Jan. 19th.

Still unable to hunt. The *Belvoir* met at Goadby, and drew Goadby Gorse, Piper Hole, Clawson Thorns, Melton Spinney, Freeby Wood, and I don't know how many more places, blank. Found at Stonesby Gorse, but had no sport. A very wet day.

Friday, Jan. 30th.

Quorn—Six Hills.

Drew Mundy's Gorse blank. Found at Walton Thorns. Ran through Thrussington Wolds, by Shoby Scholes and Lord Aylesford's Gorse to Dalby Wood, then by Broughton Hill to Holwell, and on to within one field to Piper Hole,

18

where we lost him. The pace was bad and the hunting cold most of the way. Found at Goodricke's Gorse and ran by the Old Hills and Holwell village, where I left them, and they did not do much more. They ran smartish up to the Old Hills.

"Teddy the Tiler."

"Intrepid."

Saturday, Jan. 31st.

Did not hunt. Sir R. Sutton had a gallop from Owston Wood for a mile or two, and the *Belvoir* had a long hunting run from Boothby Wood. I shot at Belvoir.

Monday, Feb. 2nd.

Belvoir—Croxtan Park.

Drew Sproxton Thorns, Coston Gorse, and Newman's Gorse, all blank. Found at Freeby Wood and ran a few fields, but lost him. Found at Waltham Pasture. Ran through Freeby Wood to Melton Spinney very fast, 15 minutes, when he headed back, and we ran up to Stapleford Park, where there was a long check. Hit him off again and ran up to Woodwell Head a very good pace, and with hardly a check till we got into the field next to Woodwell Head, where they checked. They, however, carried it on into the covert, and after being some time in the covert came away again (with probably a fresh fox), and ran to Coston Gorse and on to Buckminster, where I left them. It was then nearly dark and there was no huntsman, Goodall having quite tired both his horses. The country was deeper than I ever saw it.

"The Hind."

"The Engineer."

Tuesday, Feb. 3rd.

Cottesmore—Loddington.

Found at Loddington Redish, and ran very fast to Tilton Wood, and then over Robin-a-Tiptoe to Launde Woods, ran

about the Launde Woods for some time, and then to Owston Wood; ran about Owston Wood for a long time, and then back to Launde. A rattling scent, but the most unsatisfactory day possible. Drew Prior's Coppice in the afternoon, but did not find.

"Tom of Lincoln."

"Intrepid."

Thursday, Feb. 5th.

Quorn—Great Dalby.

Found at Gartree Hill, and ran very prettily to Brentingby village, where they killed him in the meadows by the side of the river; 18 minutes, very good. Drew Burdett's Gorse, blank. Found at Thorpe Trussells, and ran through Ashby Pasture to Cream Lodge, and then back by Ashby Pasture to Ashfordby, and up to Gartree Hill, where they lost him. There was a good scent, but we were never on terms with our fox, and ran slow all the way.

"Teddy the Tiler."

"Intrepid."

Friday, Feb. 6th.

Quorn—Widmerpool Inn.

Found in one of the Owthorpe plantations, and ran to Colston Basset, where the fox hung in the shrubbery and was killed. I suppose we were hunting him in covert and altogether about 20 minutes. Found at Kinoulton Gorse and ran backwards and forwards among the Widmerpool plantations, where there were two or three foxes on foot, but did no good. Found at Willoughby Gorse, and ran up to Grimston Gorse; 40 minutes, not a very good pace; stayed a very short time in the gorse, and went away back again to the Curate's Gorse and lost him close to Widmerpool Inn; 1 hour and 20 minutes altogether.

"Robin Hood."

"The Hind."

Saturday, Feb. 7th.

Cottesmore—Market Overton.

Found at Woodwell Head, ran a few fields, and lost him. Went to the Big Woods, but did no good. A windy day and no scent.

“The Engineer.”

“Tom of Lincoln.”

Thursday, Feb. 19th.

Quorn—Billesdon.

Came down from London on Wednesday evening, and went back on Thursday after hunting. Found in the gorse at Rolleston, and the hounds ran over two or three fields very fast, and it looked like a run, when they came to a check, and we lost him. Drew Shankton Holt, blank. Found at Glen Gorse, and ran as hard as possible up to Stoughton and a few fields beyond, when they threw up. The hounds were very wild, and had evidently overrun the scent a field or two.

“Tom of Lincoln.”

“Robin Hood.”

Saturday evening, Feb. 28th.

Came back to Melton. I have not heard of much sport during the last three weeks, either with Sir R. Sutton's or the *Belvoir* hounds. The *Quorn* have had excellent sport every Friday, having had a good run every successive Friday for seven or eight weeks.

Monday, March 2nd.

Quorn—Shearsby.

Drew Walton Holt, blank. Found at Bosworth Gorse, but could not do anything—there was apparently no scent at all. Drew John Ball, blank. Drew the wood by the house

at Gumley and Laughton Hills, found in a young plantation on the banks of the canal, opposite Gumley; ran him up to Gumley, and to ground in a drain.

“Teddy the Tiler.”

Tuesday, March 3rd.

Cottesmore—Loddington.

Found at the Redish, ran through Tilton Wood and round to Launde Wood; did no good.

“The Hind.”

Wednesday, March 4th.

Belvoir—Croxton Park.

Drew Goadby Gorse, blank. Found at Scalford Bogs, and ran him for 57 minutes by Holwell and Kettleby and back by Melton Lodge, and to ground near the Old Hills. Drew Melton Spinney, blank. Found in Goadby Park, and ran (a bitch fox, I have no doubt) a ring of about 40 minutes; back to Goadby, and to ground by the side of the water.

“Robin Hood.”

“Wamba.”

Thursday, March 5th.

Quorn—Brooksby.

Found in one of the Brooksby Spinneys, the hounds coming away at the fox's brush, which made him dodge about a good deal at first; the hounds were, however, never at fault, and ran him up to Ashby Pasture (15 minutes), leaving Cream Gorse on the right; in Ashby Pasture they turned to the right and ran by Ashby Folville almost to Baggrave, then turned to the right again by South Croxton, over the brook and up to Queeniborough, leaving the village just on the

left and on to Rearsby, where he went to ground. Altogether 58 minutes, and the pace very good.

Found again at Barkby Holt, ran by Baggrave, then turned to the left, and leaving Gaddesby just on the left, ran up to Cream Gorse, but did not go into it; leaving the gorse on the right, ran up to the Leicester and Melton road, across the road and down to the canal, then turned to the right along the bank of the river, through Frisby Churchyard, where they very nearly killed him; back again across the Leicester road at Kirby to Cream Gorse, stayed a very short time in the gorse, and then ran down by the Brooksby Spinneys, across the road and down to the river side again, after which they never could hit him off again, or make anything of him, and Day thinks he had got into the lock and was drowned. A long hunting run of more than two hours; altogether it was a very long and hard day for hounds, and they behaved admirably. The first day I have seen the Dog-pack in that country.

“The Engineer.”

“Intrepid.”

Friday, March 6th.

Quorn—Six Hills.

Drew Mundy's Gorse and Walton Thorns, blank. Found at the plantation close to Thrussington Wolds, and ran by Ragdale and Shoby Scholes, leaving Lord Aylesford's Gorse on the left, and killed in the Wartnaby Plantation, by Little Belvoir; 42 minutes: a very good run, though not the outside pace; they ran fast at times, and held on close to their fox without ever leaving him.

Found again at Grimston Gorse, and ran by Wartnaby Stone Pits and Holwell Mouth, near which we lost him near Holwell. Found again at Goodricke's Gorse, but it was a bitch fox, and the hounds were whipped off.

“Tom of Lincoln.”

Saturday, March 7th.

Cottesmore—Leesthorpe.

Found in the shrubbery at Little Dalby, and ran by Leesthorpe and then to the left down to Stapleford Park (that purgatory of foxhunters); 20 minutes, very pretty indeed, and fast. Found again at Owston Wood, and hunted slow up to Prior's Coppice, where the hounds came well away with their fox towards Launde, but could not run him much.

"Teddy the Tiler."

"The Hind."

Three very good days' sport.

Monday, March 9th.

Quorn—Holt.

Drew Holt Wood, blank. Found at Easton Park a brace of foxes, they ran one for a few fields, when she headed back to the wood, and proved to be a vixen. Drew Marelebone Holt, Allextan Wood, Vow's Gorse, Ram's Head, Hallaton Bottoms, and Keythorpe Wood, all blank: a wretched day's sport.

"Robin Hood."

Tuesday, March 10th.

Quorn—Quorndon.

Went to draw a spinney by the side of the river and found a fox in a hedgerow; ran him up to the Forest, but had not scent enough to do much good.

"The Hind."

Wednesday, March 11th.

Belvoir—Langar.

Found at Key Wood, and ran to ground in a small spinney a few fields off. Drew Hose Gorse, Harby Covert,

Granby Gap, and Jericho, blank. Found latish in the afternoon at Elton, and ran back as far as Jericho very slow. There was very little scent, and the ploughs as dry as possible.

“Wamba.”

“Intrepid.”

Thursday, March 12th.

Quorn—Billesdon.

Found at Rolleston in the gorse, ran very prettily up to Shankton Holt, from thence by Ilston almost to Galby, then turned to the right and pointed for the Coplow; left Billesdon town on the right, and then turned back by Skeffington to Rolleston, thence on by Noseley Wood pointing for Gloostone, where they turned back to the left, and killed him near to Noseley: an hour and 30 minutes; unfortunately a vixen fox. They ran fastish at times, and over a fine line, but never three fields in the same direction.

“The Engineer.”

“Robin Hood.”

Friday, March 13th.

Quorn—Ratcliffe.

Found at Cossington Gorse, and ran a ring round by Ratcliffe, and lost near Ratcliffe Hall. Drew the gorse again and found another fox; ran a tremendous pace for four or five fields, when the fox headed back, and it evidently being a vixen fox, the hounds were stopped. Drew Ella's Gorse and Willoughby Gorse, blank. Most extraordinary thing, we cannot find anything but vixen foxes now.

“Teddy the Tiler.”

“Intrepid.”

Thursday, March 19th.

Quorn—Great Dalby.

Found at Burdett's Covert, ran up to Burrow village, leaving it just on the right, then to the left pointing for

Somerby; he then headed back by Little Dalby, back by Burdett's Covert, leaving it on the right, through Great Dalby village, and pointing for Ashby Pasture, crossed the Leicester road and went down to the railway, there he headed back and came by Kirby Gate and pointed for Burton Lazars, close to which he again headed back, and they ran him through Gartree Hill Gorse, and to ground in a drain a few fields from where he was found; dug him out and killed him: $2\frac{1}{2}$ hours. The whole of the last part of the run is put down from description: I got a fall (from Wamba) somewhere between Burrow and Somerby, and could remember nothing of what happened till I found myself riding home between Great Dalby and Kirby Gate.

“Wamba.”

“The Hind.”

1846-47.*



Saturday, Nov. 21st.

Belvoir—Hose Grange.

Found at Key Wood, and ran over two or three fields to Colston Basset. There was apparently no scent, and they lost him. Found at Hose Gorse and ran up to the hills near to Eastwell, about 25 minutes, very prettily. They checked at the hills, and afterwards hunted slowly up to the Belvoir plantations, where they lost him.

“Free Trade.”

“Tom of Lincoln.”

Monday, Nov. 23rd.

Belvoir—Landyke Lane.

Found at the Old Hills two or three foxes, but could not hunt any of them. Found at Melton Spinney, and the body of the pack got away with a fox, who went for Brentingby Spinney and about a mile beyond, where he went to ground; about 15 minutes, very good pace. The huntsman and a few couple of hounds remained in Melton Spinney with another

	First horse.	Second horse.	Total.
* “The Engineer” . . .	8 times	5 times	13
“Wamba” . . .	—	12 „	12
“Teddy the Tiler” . .	7 „	—	7
“Tom of Lincoln” . .	13 „	twice	15
“Robin Hood” . . .	9 „	3 times	12
“Free Trade” . . .	3 „	14 „	17
“Music”	7 „	4 „	11

fox. Found again at Freeby Wood and ran fastish to the top of the hill above Melton Spinney, where they checked, and then hunted him to Melton Spinney. Ran in the spinney for some time, and then went away with him slowly over the same line to Freeby Wood, Waltham Pasture, New-man's Gorse and to Sproxton Thorns, where he beat them.

* "Cecil Turnor's mare."

"Robin Hood."

Tuesday, Nov. 24th.

Cottesmore—Tilton Wood.

Did not draw Tilton Wood or Loddington Redish, because the *Quorn* were through them the day before. Found at Owston Wood, and ran with a very cold scent through the Launde Woods and back again to Owston Wood, but could do no good with him. Drew Ranksborough blank, and one or two other places, but did not find again.

"Tom of Lincoln."

"Wamba."

Thursday, Nov. 26th.

Quorn—Great Dalby.

Killed a fox in Gartree Hill. Found another in Burdett's Gorse and killed him in Gartree Hill. Found at Thorpe Trussells, and ran to ground near Gartree Hill after a sharp scurry of 7 or 8 minutes. He bolted almost directly, but they did no good with him.

"Teddy the Tiler."

"Robin Hood."

Friday, Nov. 27th.

Quorn—Wartnaby Stone Pits.

Found at Holwell Mouth, but did no good. Found at Goodricke's Gorse—no better. Found at Grimston, and ran by Old Dalby up to Mundy's Gorse, where he turned to the right and they lost him.

"Cecil Turnor's mare."

* Mr. Cecil Turnor.

Saturday, Nov. 28th.

Cottesmore——Cold Overton.

Found at Overton Park Wood, and ran up to the wind-mill near Bramston, where they over-rode the scent and made a mess of it. Found at Launde Woods, and after running about the woods a long time he went away pointing for Tilton, turned to the right, leaving Woodbarrow Hill on the left, and went to ground near Newbold; was dug out and killed.

“The Engineer.”

“Free Trade.”

It began to freeze on Saturday night, the 28th November, and they did not hunt again till Tuesday, December 8th.

Wednesday, Dec. 9th.

Belvoir——Croxtan Park.

Found at Coston Covert, and ran to Woodwell Head very fast. They checked once in the road, and it was 20 minutes to Woodwell Head. They ran 2 or 3 minutes in the covert and then went on with him to Barrow village, where there was a long check; then on to Cottesmore village, where they lost him. Found another fox at Coston: they ran him a few fields as if for Woodwell Head, then turned to the right and ran round Wymondham village, leaving it on the left, and down to Stapleford Park, where they gave him up.

“Tom of Lincoln.”

“Free Trade.”

Thursday, Dec. 10th.

Quorn——Houghton-on-the-Hill.

Drew Scraftoft, and found in the New Gorse Covert, and ran him with a bad scent up to Botany Bay; made a wide cast, and hit off a scent again in the Coplow Gorse, probably the same fox. He went back to Botany Bay, back again to

the Coplow Gorse, then back to Botany Bay, and went away towards Quenby; went to ground in a hole near Quenby Hall; he bolted almost directly, and was killed in the next field.

Found at John o' Gaunt, ran a few fields with his head pointing for Owston, then turned to the right, over Colborough Hill, through Tilton Wood and Skeffington Wood to Loddington Redish, where they got close up to him; he then turned back, and ran to ground close to Tugby Wood. They ran fastish from John o' Gaunt to Tilton Wood, and the hounds hunted it capitally through the woods, and deserved to kill their fox.

"The Engineer."

"Wamba."

Friday, Dec. 11th.

A sharp frost.

Thermometer:

	Highest.		Lowest.
Dec. 13th, 14th . . .	29½	.	11½
„ 14th, 15th . . .	29½	.	16
„ 15th—24th . . .	48	.	11

There was no hunting till Monday, December 21st, when they hunted at Keythorpe, but had not much sport. They also hunted on Tuesday and Wednesday, 22nd and 23rd. On Tuesday, the *Belvoir* had a capital run from Sapperton Wood. It froze again very hard on Wednesday evening, the 23rd, and they did not hunt again till Wednesday, Dec. 30th, when the *Belvoir* hunted in the vale. The *Quorn* did not hunt on Thursday, but began on Friday, Jan. 2nd [1847] and had a capital run from Cream Gorse of 1 hour and 25 minutes, and killed their fox somewhere near Skeffington Wood.

Wednesday, Jan. 6th, 1847.

Belvoir—Goadby.

Found at Goadby Gorse, and ran a ring of 25 minutes, and to ground in Harby Hills. There was a dense fog, and very

few saw anything of it. I was with them all the way, from first to last. Drew Hose Gorse and Key Wood, blank. Found at Granby Gap, and ran him to Barkeston Wood, 27 minutes, some part of it at a good pace.

“Tom of Lincoln.”

“Music.”

Thursday, Jan. 7th.

Quorn—Houghton-on-the-Hill.

Drew Scraftoft, and found a very bad fox; had a very fast ring, and ran him to ground at Barkby. Found again in a covert near Barkby, and ran down to the railway within three or four fields of Leicester, where they lost him.

“Teddy the Tiler.”

“Wamba.”

Friday, Jan. 8th.

Quorn—Ratcliffe.

Found at Cossington Gorse, and went away, pointing for Burton and Walton, at a fair pace. He then bore to the right, and the pace became very good; ran through the corner of Mundy's Gorse, and by Shoby Scholes, to Goodricke's Gorse; they ran once round the gorse, and he went away again at the bottom of the covert to Ashfordby, then crossed the canal and the railway near Kirby Station, which he crossed and re-crossed twice more, and was lost within half a mile of Melton, near the Great Dalby road. It was altogether more than 2 hours—1 hour and 15 minutes to Goodricke's Gorse—and in all respects a very fine run. The hounds did their work remarkably well, but the fox was too stout and too good for them to kill him.

“Robin Hood.”

“Free Trade.”

Saturday, Jan. 9th.

Cottesmore—*Langham*.

Found at Ranksborough, and went away towards Pickwell for four or five minutes as hard as ever I saw hounds run in my life, when, unfortunately, he went to ground in a drain, and, more unfortunately still (for it was bitterly cold, and too good a scenting day to be wasted), the Baronet* would dig him out and give him to the hounds. We then drew the Punch Bowl, and a fox went away pointing for Ranksborough. The hounds had just got settled to him, and were beginning to run hard, when they came to a check in the same field where they eat the first fox, and never acknowledged the scent afterwards. Thus ended the sport of a most unlucky day, with two good foxes and about the most rattling scent that was ever seen. We then went to Woodwell Head and Cottesmore Gorse; both blank.

“Tom of Lincoln.”

“The Engineer.”

Thermometer:

	Highest.	Lowest.
Jan. 10th, 11th. . . .	—	29
„ 11th, 12th . . .	32½	21½

There was no hunting till Monday, Jan. 25th, 1847.

Wednesday, Jan. 27th.

Belvoir—*Piper Hole*.

Found at Melton Spinney, and run by Brenting by Spinney, Waltham Pasture, Newman's Gorse, and Stonesby Spinney to Sproxton Thorns, at a good pace, but with two or three considerable checks, 16 minutes to Newman's Gorse. Came away with a fresh fox and ran him to ground in Croxton Park. Found again at the Lings and ran through the

* Sir Richard Sutton.

park very fast, and afterwards slowly into the heath country, where the scent got worse, and we lost him near to Three Queens.

“Tom of Lincoln.”

“Wamba.”

Thursday, Jan. 28th.

Did not hunt, having sprained my ankle on Wednesday. The *Quorn* met at Great Dalby and had a fast scurry from Ashby Pasture.

Friday, Jan. 29th.

Quorn—Six Hills.

Drew Mundy's Gorse and Ella's Gorse, blank. Found at Walton Thorns and ran as hard as we could go to Burton-on-the-Wolds and then on to Prestwold, where we lost him. Found again in Ragdale Spinney, and lost near Thrussington Wolds. Found again at Shoby Scholes, ran a short ring and lost him.

“Robin Hood.”

“The Engineer.”

* H. Forester: “Music.”

Saturday, Jan. 30th.

Cottesmore—Tilton Wood.

Found at Tilton Wood, ran to Skeffington Wood, Tugby Bushes and Loddington Redish, backwards and forwards two or three times, when they went away by Keythorpe towards the Ram's Head, where they lost him.

“Teddy the Tiler.”

“Free Trade.”

Monday, Feb. 1st.

Belvoir—Croxtan Park.

Drew Hose Gorse, Harby Covert, and Granby Gap, blank. Found at Elton and lost him near Langar. I rode a horse of George Manners'. A great deal of snow fell in the morning and during the day. The Quorn hounds met at Shearsby and had a good run from Walton Holt to Shewell Wood, and killed in Bosworth Gorse.

Thermometer :

		Lowest.	Highest.
Feb. 3rd, 4th	. . . .	27	33
„ 6th, 7th	. . . .	31	—
„ 7th, 8th	. . . .	21	37
„ 8th, 9th	. . . .	24	34

There was no hunting again till

Saturday, Feb. 6th.

Cottesmore—Owston Wood.

Found immediately in the Little Wood, but the hounds did not get away on very good terms. They ran fastish in a flighty sort of way up to Lady Wood, and seemed to acknowledge a scent as far as Prior's Coppice and almost to Oakham Pasture, where they lost him. Drew Overton Park Wood, where there was either a stale scent or a fox ; but we did no good. Then went to Ranksborough, where there were a brace of foxes, and after the hounds had been in the gorse about three-quarters of an hour without being able to get a fox to go away, Sutton gave it up and went home before 3 o'clock.

“ The Engineer.”

“ Robin Hood.”

Thermometer :

		Lowest.	Highest.
Feb. 9th, 10th	. . . .	21	32

They did not hunt again till Monday, February 15th.

Tuesday, Feb. 16th.

Quorn—Ashfordby.

Found at Goodricke's Gorse and went away as far as the Melton Spinney Brook, where he turned to the left and was lost at Clawson Thorns. Found again at Wartnaby Stone Pits, and ran up to Grimston Gorse, when he turned back and pointed for the vale, and was lost near Broughton.

"Tom of Lincoln."

"Free Trade."

Wednesday, Feb. 17th.

I went to London and came back at night. The *Belvoir* killed a fox from Sproxton Thorns after 25 minutes' run; 10 minutes very fast.

Thursday, Feb. 18th.

Quorn—Houghton-on-the-Hill.

Found at Glen Gorse, and ran over a fine line by Stoughton, Keyham and Beeby, but slow and by fits and starts, and lost him near Barkby. Found again at Barkby Holt, and ran to ground near Quenby. Found again at Botany Bay, but did no good.

"Teddy the Tiler."

"Wamba."

Friday, Feb. 19th.

Quorn—Bunny Park.

Drew the Bunny Coverts and Highfield Gorse, blank. Found at Willoughby Gorse, and ran very fast to the Wymeswold and Six Hills Lane, 10 minutes, where he lay down; they cast forwards, and in the meantime the fox jumped up, and they ran him back again through Willoughby Gorse, and to ground in a drain; altogether about 35 minutes. Found again at Ella's Gorse, and ran up to Lord Aylesford's

Gorse, then by Shoby Scholes to Thrussington Wolds, where we lost him. The scent was bad in the afternoon.

“Robin Hood.”

“The Engineer.”

Saturday, Feb. 20th.

Cottesmore—Market Overton.

Drew Barrow Gorse blank. Found at Woodwell Head, and after much mismanagement got away with him to Gunby Gorse, where there was a long check, thence on slowly to Gunby Warren, where he waited for them, and they ran very prettily up to Witham Wood, skirted the wood without ever going into it, and on to Swayfield Wood, when there was another long check, and they did no good afterwards; it was about 25 minutes from Gunby Warren to Swayfield Wood, very pretty indeed.

“Tom of Lincoln.”

“Free Trade.”

Monday, Feb. 22nd.

Belvoir—Croxtan Park.

Found at Melton Spinney, and went away by Thorpe Arnold, over a fine grass country pointing for Stapleford, but slow and with baddish scent; he then turned and they hunted him up to Freeby Wood and Waltham Pasture; he went away again from Waltham Pasture, and after a ring of about 35 minutes went to ground in a drain about a mile from Melton Spinney: altogether 2 hours and 20 minutes. While they were digging him out, a fresh fox bolted from the drain, and ran with the hounds at his brush to Melton Spinney; he came away again almost directly, and went by Thorpe, through Freeby Wood and Newman's Gorse, without a check in either, to Stonesby village, where they killed him, after running a ring round the village; an hour and 5 minutes from the drain, and altogether a capital day's sport.

“Music.”

“Wamba.”

Tuesday, Feb. 23rd.

Cottesmore—Little Dalby.

Found two foxes at the Punch-bowl, the hounds divided, and the fog was so thick that the Baronet kept to the wrong one, who came back to the Dalby Plantations and was lost. Found again at Owston Wood, and went away to Launde Wood as fast as we could gallop; there was a rattling scent till we got to the wood, when the hounds took to hunting; after being a long time in the Launde Woods, went away with a fox to Loddington Redish, where there were three or four foxes on foot; went away with one to Loddington Hall, where the hounds divided, and the body of the pack ran a fox back in view through the woods to ground by Launde Abbey; they dug him out and killed him: a bad day's sport.

"Teddy the Tiler."

"Free Trade."

Thermometer:

	Highest.	Lowest.
Feb. 24th, 25th	—	25
„ 25th, 26th	—	25
„ 26th, 27th	—	26
„ 27th, 28th	38	25

Thursday, Feb. 25th.

Quorn—Scraptoft.

Found in the gorse; a bad, ringing fox, and did no good with him. Found again at Barkby Holt; he went away towards Baggrave, and was soon lost. Found again at John o' Gaunt two foxes, ran up to Tilton town where there were two scents, and they ran back through John o' Gaunt, and to ground in Sutton's country, about a mile beyond. Drew Botany Bay blank.

I lamed both my horses, but I hope only slightly.

"Robin Hood."

"The Engineer."

Friday, Feb. 26th.

Quorn——Ratcliffe Hall.

Found at Cossington Gorse, ran a little ring round the gorse and lost him. Found at Walton Thorns, and ran a half-circle up to Burton to ground: a very pretty 16 minutes. Found another fox and had a long hunting run, by Loughborough Station, and along the side of the river Soar, and lost him about a mile beyond Normanton village. A good day's sport.

“Tom of Lincoln.”

“Wamba.”

Saturday, Feb. 27th.

Cottesmore——Brooke Hall.

Found at Prior's Coppice, and went away directly through Launde Wood to Loddington, where they lost him. Found again at Loddington Redish, and ran through Launde Wood to Owston Wood. They then went to Ranksborough, where they found and ran towards Somerby. The scent was bad, and the ground much too hard to gallop.

“Music.”

“Free Trade.”

Monday, March 1st.

Belvoir——Piper Hole.

Found at Clawson Thorns: there was a bad scent and they ran slowly to Goodricke's Gorse, where they appeared to get up to him, and ran very prettily down to Ashfordby, near which they lost him. Found at Holwell Mouth, and ran down the hill towards Broughton village, where he turned to the left, came up the hill again, and they killed in the open at Grimston village after a very pretty 30 minutes. They then drew Grimston Gorse (by request), found, and went away, leaving Lord Aylesford's Gorse on the right, then

turned to the right and ran by Ragdale, and lost him near Hoby village.

“Teddy the Tiler.”

“Free Trade.”

Tuesday, March 2nd.

Cottesmore—Launde Abbey.

Found in Launde Park Wood, and went away by Belton village to Wardley Wood—the scent very bad; they found again at Prior’s Coppice, and ran up to Owston Wood; but very slow.

“Music.”

Wednesday, March 3rd.

Cottesmore—Little Dalby.

Found at the Punch-bowl, ran a fox by Burrow Hill to Owston village, but on very bad terms; hit him off again going into Owston Wood, went away to Launde Wood, where he did not stop, and killed him on the furthest side of Tilton Wood: a goodish run for hounds, but very unsatisfactory to ride to. Found again in Tilton Wood, ran him up to Lowesby, then back again up to Tilton village, and lost him at Quenby Hall: a good day’s sport altogether.

“Robin Hood.”

Thursday, March 4th.

Quorn—Billesden Kennels.

Drew the Norton Spinneys. Found at Norton Gorse, but did no good, and lost him near Knighton. Found at Scrap-toft Gorse two or three foxes, but so bad they would not go three fields from the gorse.

“The Engineer.”

“Music.”

Friday, March 5th.

Quorn—Brooksby.

Drew the Spinneys blank. Found at Cream Gorse; got away at last with a very bad fox, ran him through Ashby Pasture, and lost him near Great Dalby. Drew Gartree Hill blank. Found at Goodricke's Gorse a very bad fox; he went a few fields towards Ashfordby, then went back to Melton, then back again to the gorse, and was killed just outside the covert.

"Tom of Lincoln."

"Free Trade."

Saturday, March 6th.

Belvoir—Saltby.

Drew Coston Gorse blank. Found at Sproxton Thorns, and ran very fast up to Newman's Gorse, and then to Waltham Pasture, where they lost him. Drew Freeby Wood, but did not find there. Found in Newman's Gorse, and ran very fast to Sproxton Thorns and up to Buckminster Park. The fox was viewed away from the park on the other side, but the hounds were some time getting out of the park, and we could make nothing of him afterwards. Found again in Sproxton Thorns, and went away as hard as we could rattle to Saxby village, then bore to right and pointed for Melton Spinney; and they killed in the turnpike road at Thorpe Arnold: five minutes, very fast all the way, and over a fine line. Sutton's pack joined ours near Brentingby, having found a fox near Woodwell Head, and ran him to Coston and on towards Saxby. A most excellent day's sport.

"Teddy the Tiler."

"Wamba."

Monday, March 8th.

Belvoir—Stanton Hall.

Found at Cotham Gorse, but lost him directly. Went back to the gorse, and found another fox. Got away on capital

terms with him, and ran with only one or two trifling checks to Stapleford Moor, in Lord Henry Bentinck's country, in 35 minutes, about six miles. They ran him hard all through the covert, and would probably have killed him, as he was going away at the far side of the covert (50 minutes), but he was headed, and there were soon half a dozen foxes on foot, which saved his life. They ran about Stapleton Moor for a short time, and then went away with a fox, but lost him somewhere between Beckingham and Broughton. Found again in the afternoon at Fenton Gorse, but the scent was bad, and they lost him near Stubton.

"Music."

Thermometer :

	Lowest.	Highest.
March 9th, 10th	25	35
,, 10th, 11th	18	34

Wednesday, March 10th.

Belvoir—Landyke Lane.

Drew Clawson Thorns blank. Found a bitch fox in Holwell Mouth, and left her. Found at Melton Spinney, and ran up to Brentingby Spinney, through Freeby Wood, and lost him beyond Stonesby Spinney. Found at Goadby Gorse, but could do no good. A horrid, cold, stormy day, and a great deal of snow.

"Tom of Lincoln."

"Wamba."

Thursday, March 11th.

Quorn—Baggrave Hall.

The hounds came to Baggrave about 10 o'clock, but it was too hard to hunt, and they went back again.

Friday, March 12th.

Quorn—Ragdale.

Found at Shoby Scholes, and ran as hard as they could up to Grimston village, when they lost him very unaccountably.

Went on to Grimston Gorse, where there were two or three foxes, which went away in different directions, but they could not get the body of the hounds settled to any. Found again at Goodricke's Gorse. He went away by the end of Melton town, up to Thorpe Arnold, then turned to the left, and they hunted the scent up to Melton Spinney. Came away again from Melton Spinney with, I should say, the same fox, and ran him very hard and very prettily by Melton Lodge to Sysonby Church, and lost him close to the railroad at Sysonby.

“Robin Hood.”

“Free Trade.”

Saturday, March 13th.

Cottesmore—Glaston.

Drew Bisbrooke Gorse and Stoke End blank. Found in Wardley Wood, and hunted him over a very fine line to Launde Wood, then to Loddington Redish and Tilton Wood, but very slow. They did not account for him.

“Music.”

“Wamba.”

Monday, March 15th.

Quorn—Keythorpe.

Found in Keythorpe Spinney a lame, mangy fox, and killed in two fields. Drew Glooston Wood blank. Found in Stanton Wood, and lost him near Fallow Closes. Found at Shankton Holt, and had a brilliant 58 minutes, and killed between Quenby and Lowesby. He went by Burton Overy, pointing for Glen, then by Norton-by-Galby and the Coplow. I was riding with Lady Newport, and did not get a start.

“The Engineer.”

“Tom of Lincoln.”

Tuesday, March 16th.

Cottesmore——Brooke Hall.

Drew Prior's Coppice blank. Found in Owston Wood and ran up to Lady Wood, a little beyond which they lost him. He was afterwards discovered in Mr. Frewen's brew-house at Cold Overton; bolted and killed. In the meantime we found another fox at Ranksborough, and ran him hardish up to Whissendine village, where he was seen running about the roofs of the cottages. He popped out of the village again and beat them.

“Free Trade.”

Thursday, March 18th.

Quorn——Houghton-on-the-Hill.

Found at Glen Gorse two or three foxes, but could not run them a yard. Found a vixen fox at Norton Gorse and left her. We then went to Scraftoft and found two or three foxes, ran one a few fields and lost him. Found again at Botany Bay: he went away up to Norton village, through the spinneys (where another fox went away), and up to Shankton Holt in 35 minutes. There was a bad scent, but the fox went up wind, and we had rather a pretty gallop.

“Robin Hood.”

“Wamba.”

Saturday, March 20th.

Cottesmore——Loddington.

Found at the Redish and ran to Loddington village, but were on very bad terms and lost him. Passed the rest of the day in Launde and Owston Woods. The ground frightfully hard.

“The Engineer.”

“Music.”

Monday, March 22nd.

Quorn—Beeby.

Found at Barkby Holt a vixen fox and killed her near Quenby. Went to Scraftoft and ran about the gorse, but did no good.

“Free Trade.”

Tuesday, March 23rd.

Quorn—Brooksby.

Last day of the *Greene** dynasty. Found at Cream Lodge, but did nothing.

“The Engineer.”

Saturday, March 27th.

Belvoir—Belvoir Stables.

Found in Barkston Wood and ran a little about the park and plantations. Ground very hard and weather very hot.

“The Engineer.”

“Free Trade.”

Thermometer :

	Highest.	Lowest.
March 28th, 29th. . . .	—	28
„ 29th, 30th. . . .	—	28
„ 30th, 31st. . . .	46	26
„ 31st, April 1 . . .	46	29

Monday, March 29th.

Belvoir—Croxtan Park.

Drew Coston Gorse blank. Found at Sproxton Thorns, but a heavy snow-storm coming on at the time did no good with him. Drew Newman's Gorse blank. Found in Waltham Pasture, but did no good. Found at Stonesby Gorse and had a pretty ring, running by Newman's Gorse, Freeby Wood, Waltham, and back to Stonesby Spinney, where we lost him.

“Robin Hood.”

“Music.”

* That fine sportsman, Mr. Greene, of Rolleston.

Tuesday, March 30th.

Belvoir—Easton Park.

A bad scenting day ; no sport.

“Tom of Lincoln.”

“Wamba.”

Thermometer :

	Highest.	Lowest.
April 1st, 2nd	46	22!!
„ 2nd, 3rd	41	28
„ 3rd, 4th	40	30
„ 4th, 5th	52	40

Thursday, April 1st.

Belvoir—Eastwell.

Found at Hose Gorse, and had a very pretty gallop up to Piper Hole, through Holwell Mouth, and by Old Dalby to Grimston Gorse ; ran about Grimston Gorse for some time, and to ground in Old Dalby Spinney. They ran very fast as far as Piper Hole.

“Tom of Lincoln.”

“Free Trade.”

Saturday, April 3rd.

Cottesmore—Cottesmore.

Found at Woodwell Head ; the fox went away by Edmondthorpe village, and it came on to snow like the d——l, and we lost him by the canal. Went to Ranksborough, snowing tremendously ; they were in the covert for a short time, and there was a fox ; but the weather was so bad they went home.

“Robin Hood.”

“The Engineer.”

Monday (Easter Monday), April 5th.

Belvoir——Piper Hole.

Drew Scalford Bogs and Melton Spinney blank. Found at Piper Hole, a vixen fox. Found in Goadby Park, and ran by Eastwell up to Croxton Lings, but the scent was very bad and we lost him. Did not find again. A windy, stormy day.

“Tom of Lincoln.”

“Free Trade.”

1847-48.*

Monday, Nov. 29th, 1847.

Quorn—Stanton Wyville.

Drew Stanton Wood and Glooston Wood blank. Found at Keythorpe Spinney, but did no good. Ditto Rolleston.

“Tom of Lincoln.”

“The Engineer.”

Tuesday, Nov. 30th.

Cottesmore—Edith Weston.

Drew Whichley Warren blank. Found at Mr. Lucas's covert; ran a few fields and lost him. Drew Gibbet's Gorse blank. Found at Oakham Pasture, and lost him near Manton. A bad scent and no sport.

“Teddy the Tiler.”

Wednesday, Dec. 8th.

Belvoir—Croxton Park.

A frosty morning—the ground very hard. Found at Melton Spinney, and lost him near Brentingby Spinney. Found at Freeby Wood, ran by Stonesby to Waltham, then

* “Teddy the Tiler.” (Died January 16th, 1848.)

“Tom of Lincoln.”

“The Engineer.”

Brown horse: “Citizen.”

“The King of the Valley.”

back towards Garthorpe Moor, where they lost him ; apparently a wretched scent.

“The Engineer.”

“Tom of Lincoln.”

Thursday, Dec. 9th.

Quorn—Noseley.

Found in a plantation at Noseley ; lost him near Rolleston. Found again in the gorse at Rolleston two foxes ; killed one—a mangy one. Drew the Coplow, where there was a stale scent but no fox ; then went to Scraftoft and found in the gorse ; ran a fox two fields and lost him ; the Baronet then went back to the gorse, and I to Leicester *en route* to London.

“Teddy the Tiler.”

Wednesday, Dec. 15th.

Quorn—Ratcliffe.

Found at Cossington Gorse, ran him first a ring round the gorse, and then by Burton to Prestwold, when we lost him. 45 minutes. Found again at Walton Horns, and ran him up to Burton very hard, and to ground at Prestwold, bolted him, and after running about the place a good while he went to ground again, and was dug out and killed.

“Tom of Lincoln.”

“Engineer.”

Thursday, Dec. 16th.

Quorn—Barkby.

Found at Barkby Holt, ran a few fields and back again and then gave it up. Found at Cream Gorse, and killed a fox in the covert. Found again at Thorpe Trussels, and ran a few fields, but did nothing with him.

“Teddy the Tiler.”

Friday, Dec. 17th.

Cottesmore—Market Overton.

Drew Woodwell Head—no fox. Found at Cottesmore Gorse, and ran to ground near Burley Park; dug out and killed: unnecessarily, I thought.

“The Engineer.”

Wednesday, March 1st, 1848.

Belvoir—Piper Hole.

Found at Goadby Gorse, ran to ground close to Waltham, the fox bolted and was killed—unluckily a bitch fox. Found again at Newman's Gorse and ran up to Belvoir: about an hour and 10 minutes. Several foxes were soon on foot in the Belvoir Woods, which saved our fox's life.

“Tom of Lincoln.”

Thursday, March 2nd.

Quorn—Rolleston.

Found at Noseley a ringing, bad fox, and did no good with him. Found again at Fallow Closes; ran a ring, and lost him near Keythorpe Spinney.

“The King of the Valley.”

Friday, March 3rd.

Cottesmore—Brooke Hall.

Found at Prior's Coppice. Ran through Wardley Wood to Easton Park Wood, and back to Wardley and Stockerston.

Lord Wilton's “Harborough.”

Saturday, March 4th.

Belvoir—Hose.

Found at the gorse and ran up to Clawson Thorns, and killed near Scalford village. Found again at Clawson Thorns.

“The Engineer.”

“Citizen.”

Wednesday, March 8th.

Belvoir—Croxton Park.

Found at Sproxton Thorns, and ran up to Buckminster fast, and lost him. Drew Coston Gorse blank. Found at Waltham Pasture; ran him very fast for 6 or 8 minutes, and lost him. After I was gone home, they found again at Croxton Park, and ran a good run over the heath country, and lost their fox the other side of Buckminster.

A horse of the Duke of Rutland's.

Thursday, March 9th.

Quorn—Houghton-on-the-Hill.

Found at Norton Covert a good fox, but they could not hunt him a bit, and lost him somewhere near the Coplow. Found again at the Coplow, and ran to Baggrave, where they lost him in an unaccountable way. Found again, at Scraptoft, another capital fox, but lost him almost directly. Wretched work.

“The Engineer.”

“Citizen.”

Friday, March 10th.

Cottesmore—Leesthorpe.

Drew the Punch-bowl blank. Found at Ranksborough, but a tremendous snow-storm came on, and we could do no good. Found again at Overton Park Wood, and ran fast for a few fields, and lost him. A horrid, stormy day.

“Robin Hood.”

Monday, March 13th.

Belvoir—Piper Hole.

Found at Melton Spinney, and ran to ground near Kettleby; 40 minutes; very pretty, but not fast. My horse got

into the Melton Spinney brook, and was there for 10 minutes, but was not the worse.

“Tom of Lincoln.”

“Citizen.”

Tuesday, March 14th.

Cottesmore—Brooke Hall.

Drew Prior's Coppice blank. Found at Launde Woods, and, after running there for some time, he went away, and they lost him at Wardley Wood.

H. Forester's “Venus” (late “Music”).

Wednesday, March 15th.

Quorn—Wymeswold.

Drew Ella's Gorse and Willoughby blank. Found in a small spinney (Thorpe Plantation) near Wysall, and ran very fast up to Widmerpool Plantations, and by Wynnstay Gorse to Kinoulton Gorse, where they checked; then went away again very fast to Hickling village, almost to Broughton village; then to the left, between Long Clawson and Clawson Thorns, almost to Scalford, when he bore to the left again, and they ran him through the Bullamoors and through Goadby Gorse to within two fields of Croxton Park, when he was headed short back, and they killed him in Goadby Gorse. About a 13-mile point, but at least 17 or 18 the way they went. Time, 2 hours and 32 minutes.

Lord Wilton's “Harborough.”

Thursday, March 16th.

Quorn—Brooksby.

Found at Ashby Pasture, and ran to ground near Ashby village. Dug out and killed a bitch fox! and, fit retribution, could not find another fox. Drew Thorpe Trussels, Gartree Hill, &c., blank.

“The Engineer.”

Friday, March 17th.

Cottesmore——Market Overton.

Drew Woodwell Head blank. Found at Cottesmore Gorse, and went away as hard as we could rattle pointing for Burley-on-the-Hill. He soon turned to the right, and they ran him by Langham village, leaving Ranksborough just on the right, up to Cold Overton; he then bore to the right, crossed the turnpike road at the “Noel Arms,” and we lost him at Stapleford Park: 1 hour and 10 minutes; very good, the first 18 minutes first-rate.

“Tom of Lincoln.”

Thursday, March 23rd.

Belvoir——Croxton Park.

Ran a fox for an hour and a half in Coston Gorse, but could not get him away. Drew Newman's Gorse blank. Found at Waltham Pasture, and ran through Freeby Wood, and round by Stonesby Spinney to Croxton Park, and to ground near Croxton Kerrial. Bolted, and lost him.

“Tom of Lincoln.”

Friday, March 24th.

Cottesmore——Loddington.

Found in Loddington Redish three or four foxes. Found at Owston Wood, and ran over Woodbarrow Hill and to Launde Wood, and killed him by Launde Abbey.

“The Engineer.”

Saturday, March 25th.

Quorn——Six Hills.

Found at Grimston Gorse; ran a ring by Old Dalby and Holwell, and lost him near Welby Pond. Drew Goodricke's

Gorse blank. Found at Cream Lodge, and ran to ground just over the railway by Frisby village. Eighteen minutes, very merry. Altogether a nice day's sport.

H. Forester's "Lamplighter."
"The Citizen."

Monday, March 27th.

Belvoir—Langar.

Found at Key Wood, and ran to ground by Colston Basset. Drew Hose Gorse blank. Found at Clawson Thorns, and ran to Hickling village very hard; 25 minutes; there was a long check at the village, and we could make no more of it. Found at Holwell Mouth, and ran to ground by the Old Hills. Went again to Clawson Thorns, and found two more foxes.

* W. Coke's "Lucy Long."
"Citizen."

Tuesday, March 28th.

Pytchley—North Kilworth.

Found at Misterton Gorse, and lost him near the Lutterworth and Leicester road. The first 25 minutes to Bitteswell village was very good. Found again at Yelvertoft, and lost him near Stamford Hall.

"Tom of Lincoln."

Friday, March 31st.

Cottesmore—Tilton.

Killed a fox near Loddington Hall after running for about an hour and a half in the woods. Found at Owston

* Mr. William Coke.

Wood and ran fast up to Overton Park Wood, where he was headed, and they lost him near Branston village.

“The Engineer.”

“Citizen.”

Saturday, April 1st.

Quorn—Thrussington.

Found at Ashby, a good fox, but did nothing; ditto Grimston Gorse in the afternoon.

Monday, April 3rd.

Belvoir—Langar.

Killed a bitch fox in Melton Spinney; ditto at Clawson Thorns.

“Tom of Lincoln.”

Thursday, April 6th.

Belvoir—Scrimshaw Mill.

Found at the Rectory Covert, and ran to ground at Elton. Went to Barkeston Wood.

“The Engineer.”

Friday, April 7th.

Cottesmore—Langham.

Found at Lady Wood, and ran to Ranksborough, where they came away close to a bitch fox, and after running her a few fields they were stopped. Found at Owston Wood and ran hard up to Prior's Coppice, when he was headed back to Owston Wood, where they ran him for a couple of hours but could not kill him.

“Tom of Lincoln.”

Saturday, April 8th.

Belvoir——Belvoir.

Found lots of foxes—ran one to ground near Stathern Point; and another to ground in the evening near Woolsthorpe, which they bolted and killed, unluckily a vixen who had laid her cubs up.

* C. Leslie's chestnut horse.

* The late Colonel Charles Powell Leslie, M.P.

1849-50.*

Thermometer on Nov. 27th, 1849, down to 10 deg. at Weston; frost lasted $2\frac{1}{2}$ days, and went away on the 29th.

Saturday, Dec. 1st.

Quorn—Ratcliffe.

Drew Cossington Gorse blank. Found at Walton Thorns, lost him near the Curate's Gorse (entirely the fault of the huntsman in my judgment). No sport.

"The Engineer."

"Mulatto."

Monday, Dec. 3rd.

Quorn—Barkby.

Found at Barkby Holt, and ran him to Quenby Hall, but not fast. Found again at the Coplow, took him a ring or two about as far as Billesden town, brought him back, and killed him at the Coplow.

"Merry Shepherd."

"Rowton."

* "The Engineer."

"Rowton."

"Merry Shepherd."

"Mulatto Horse," went away.

Brown mare, came Dec. 18th.

Brown horse, "Merry Andrew."

Thursday, Dec. 6th.

Quorn—Keythorpe.

Found at the Ram's Head, ran round the Keythorpe plantations, through Loddington Redish, round Loddington village, and killed near Tugby. Found again at Vow's Gorse, but did nothing.

“The Engineer.”

“Mulatto Horse.”

Saturday, Dec. 8th.

Quorn—Wartnaby Stone Pits.

Found at Goodricke's Gorse, ran by Melton and Newport Lodge, and lost him close by Brentingby Spinney. Went to Grimston Gorse, where we found, and ran to Old Dalby Wood, then back to Grimston village, and lost.

“The Merry Shepherd.”

“Mulatto.”

Monday, Dec. 10th.

Belvoir—Landyke Lane.

A very foggy day, so we went down into the Vale, where it was less thick. Drew Harby Covert blank. Found at Granby Gap, ran him a ring round by Jericho and back to Granby Gap; after some time came away with another fox, and ran him to ground in a plantation beyond Langar: a good day's sport.

“Oldham.”

“Rowton.”

Wednesday, Dec. 12th.

Belvoir—Croxtan Park.

Found at Stonesby Gorse, and ran as hard as we could lick to Newman's Gorse, and were obliged to leave him: $4\frac{1}{2}$ minutes. Found again at Freeby Wood, and ran by Wy-

fordby to Stapleford Park, where the hounds were of course stopped. Found at Brentingby Spinney, and ran to Melton Spinney, where we changed foxes, and ran the fresh one on very bad terms to Scalford town, thence to Goadby, where they lost him. Drew Goadby Gorse blank.

“The Engineer.”

“Mulatto.”

Thursday, Dec. 13th.

Quorn——Lowesby.

Found at John o' Gaunt, and lost him near Lowesby. Found again at Thorpe Trussels, as good a fox as ever was found. We ran him by Gadsby, and just beyond Gadsby, as the hounds were beginning to settle to their fox, Sir Richard chose to fancy that his hounds were over-ridden, and ordered them to be stopped; they had some difficulty in stopping them, and in about two fields beyond they hit it off again, and ran by Brooksby Spinneys across the railway up to Hoby, then to the right by Schooby, to Kettlewell, by Holwell Mouth, through Clawson Thorns, then down into the Vale through Clawson village and Hose village, and gave him up at dark between Hose and Langar: a 12 or 13 mile point, over a magnificent country, and had it not been for the childishness of stopping the hounds for 10 minutes at Gadsby it would have been a magnificent run.

“The Merry Shepherd.”

Saturday, Dec. 15th.

Belvoir——Piper Hole.

Drew Clawson Thorns and Holwell Mouth blank. Found at the Old Hills, and ran very hard, leaving Kettleby on the right, to Wartnaby Stone Pits; he then turned to the left, pointing for Grimston, left Wartnaby on the left, Grimston Gorse just on the right, by Saxelby and Welby pond, then

bore to the left again, crossed the road at Melton Lodge, and pointed for Melton Spinney; when he got down to the brook he turned to the left again and ran up to Scalford town, then back by Holwell village, past the Old Hills to Kettleby, and got into a hole near Wartnaby Stone Pits: a fine run of 1 hour and 45 minutes. The hounds ran hard almost all the time, and for the first 25 or 30 minutes at best pace. All Melton, except myself, hunted with the Quorn at Ratcliffe, but had no sport.

“ Oldham.”

Monday, Dec. 17th.

Quorn—Barkby.

Drew Barkby Holt blank; ditto Baggrave. Found at the Coplow. No sport.

“ The Engineer.”

“ Rowton.”

Wednesday, Dec. 19th.

Belvoir—Croxtton Park.

Found at Sproxton Thorns, ran up to Croxtton Park, by Waltham town, leaving it on the left, then by Brentingby Spinney, and back to Sproxton, then to Stoke Park, and brought him back and killed him near Sproxton Thorns.

“ Mulatto.”

“ Nimble Harry.”

Saturday, Dec. 22nd.

Quorn—Wartnaby Stone Pits.

A frosty morning; hounds arrived at twelve o'clock. Drew Goodricke's Gorse blank. Found at Grimston, did not do much.

“ Rowton.”

“ Engineer.”

Monday, Dec. 24th.

Quorn.

The appointment was Keythorpe, but it was too hard to hunt there; we were staying at Quorn, and hunted at one o'clock with * Day's pack. We drew the Burton plantations and Walton Thorns blank. Found at Mundy's Gorse, but lost him in two fields. Drew Thrussington Wolds blank. Found at Schoby Scholes, and ran prettily through Brudenell's Gorse, by Wartnaby Stone Pits up to the Nottingham road, where he was headed; then back to the Old Dalby Wood, and to ground in a drain in the middle of a field near Old Dalby; dug him out.

A horse of Sir R. Sutton's.

Wednesday, Dec. 26th.

Quorn—Bunny Park.

Drew Debdale Gorse blank. Found in the plantations this side of the Park, ran across the Park and lost him; then went to draw the Decoy Covert for a "bagman"! did no good, of course.

"The Merry Shepherd."

"Rowton."

Thursday, Dec. 27th.

Cottesmore—Brooke Hall.

Found a very good fox at Prior's Coppice, ran at a good pace to Launde Wood, through all the woods, and he went away at the farthest corner of Launde Park Wood, by Robin-a-Tiptoe, but unfortunately he was headed, ran back over the foiled ground, and we did no more good. It was 30 minutes till he was headed.

"Oldham."

"Leila."

* Tom Day, Sir R. Sutton's kennel huntsman.

Frost set in, and it did not thaw till the 22nd January, 1850. The *Quorn* and *Cottesmore* hunted on the 25th, but the riding was bad; same hounds hunted on the 4th and 5th of January, but the thaw was not general.

Saturday, Jan. 26th.

Quorn—Walton Village.

Drew Walton Thorns, where there was only one fox, and he went away before we got to the covert. Found four or five foxes at Mundy's Gorse, but they made a mess with them and did no good; it then came on to rain and snow, and we did nothing, though we found at Cossington Gorse.

"The Merry Shepherd."

"Leila."

Monday, Jan. 28th.

Quorn—Barkby.

Went as far as Barkby Holt, when Sir Richard voted it was too hard to hunt, and sent the hounds home; all the other hounds hunted, and the Belvoir had a good run.

Tuesday, Jan. 29th.

Cottesmore—Gunthorpe.

Found at Manton Covert, and lost him near the Quaker's Lodge. Found at Wardley Wood, and ran up to Vow's Gorse, then turned to left, leaving Hallaton village on the left, nearly to Medbourne, when they turned to the left again, and lost near Holt Plantation; up to Vow's Gorse was very fast.

"The Merry Shepherd."

"Mulatto Horse."

Wednesday, Jan. 30th.

Belvoir—Piper Hole.

Found at Holwell Mouth, ran by Hose Gorse to Kinoulton, where we joined the *Quorn*, and ran to Wynnstay Gorse, and killed a fox near Wynnstay Gorse.

“The Engineer.”

“Leila.”

Friday, Feb. 8th.

Cottesmore—Rocart.

Found at Little Dalby; ran a ring, and killed close to Little Dalby Hall. Found at Owston Wood, and ran to John o’ Gaunt and up to Tilton: a fine line, but not fast.

“The Merry Shepherd.”

“Mulatto Horse.”

Saturday, Feb. 9th.

Quorn—Kirby Gate.

Found at Gartree Hill, ran up to Burton Lazars, and lost him. A gale of wind.

“The Engineer.”

“Leila.”

Monday, Feb. 11th.

Belvoir—Langar.

Found at Langar, and ran to ground at Wiverton Hall. Weather horrible—wind and rain.

“The Engineer.”

“Mulatto Horse.”

Tuesday, Feb. 12th.

Quorn—Widmerpool.

Found at the Parson’s Gorse, ran a short ring, and lost him near Colston Basset. Found again at Cotgrave Gorse; did nothing. Rain and snow.

“Mulatto Horse.”

Wednesday, Feb. 13th.

Belvoir——Croxton Park.

A sharp frost; hunted at twelve o'clock; went to Stonesby Gorse, where there were five foxes; ran to ground in Croxton Park. Found again at the Lings, and ran up to Sproxton Thorns, found a fresh fox there, and lost him at Saxby village.

* Cecil Fane's "Cigar."
"Rowton."

Thursday, Feb. 14th.

Quorn——Barkby.

Found at Humberston Spinney, ran a few fields and lost him. Found at Scaptoft, but, as usual, could not get a fox away or do any good. Found at Barkby Holt, and ran over a fine line, leaving Gaddesby on the right and Brooksby on the left, where they lost him. Went home at five minutes past three o'clock!

"The Engineer."
"Rowton."

Friday, Feb. 15th.

Quorn——Radcliffe.

Drew some spinneys near Syston. Found at Cream Lodge, hunted a cold scent down to Ashfordby. Drew Ashby Pasture, blank; found at Thorpe Trussels, and ran very prettily by Thorpe Satchville up to Burrow town, then turned to the left by Little Dalby and Leesthorpe, and lost him near the Old Bury Gorse.

"Oldham."
"Heart of Oak."

Saturday, Feb. 16th.

Belvoir——Piper Hole.

Found at Melton Spinney; he crossed the brook pointing for Kettleby, then turned back to the right, across the brook

* Mr. Cecil Fane, Commissioner of Bankruptcy.

again by Scalford windmill, by Mr. Gillett's house at Waltham, and they killed him in Stonesby village; 33 minutes, very fast and very good. We then drew Newman's Gorse, Freeby Wood, Waltham Pasture, and Brentingby Spinney blank; found again at Melton Spinney, ran by Brentingby Spinney and Freeby village, and lost him near Saxby.

"The Merry Shepherd."

"Mulatto Horse."

Monday, Feb. 18th.

Quorn—Shearsby Inn.

Drew John Ball blank. Found at Walton Holt, and ran up to North Kilworth, where we lost him, or rather her, for I believe it was a vixen. Drew Foston Covert blank, and I came away; they did nothing more.

"St. George."

Saturday, Feb. 23rd.

Cottesmore—Launde.

Found in Launde Wood, and ran up to Keythorpe, where we lost him. Found again at Tilton Wood, and ran up to the Coplow, very prettily; they afterwards found at Owston Wood, and ran up to Overton Park Wood and Ranksborough.

"Leila."

Monday, Feb. 25th.

Quorn—Queeniborough.

Drew some spinneys and Barkby Holt blank. Found at John o' Gaunt, and ran up to Tugby Bushes, where he turned to the left through Launde Woods, back by Loddington, and killed in Loddington Redish.

"The Engineer."

"Mulatto Horse."

Tuesday, Feb. 26th.

Cottesmore—Ayston.

Found at Wardley Wood, and ran a good pace up to Prior's Coppice, where there was a long check; got away again and ran to Launde, and after running for a long time in the woods, killed him in Little Launde Wood. Found again at Owston Wood, went away pointing for Woodbarrow, then to the left through Launde Great Wood, leaving Lodington on the right and Belton village on the left, to Allexton village, where I left them. Altogether a good day's sport.

“The Merry Shepherd.”

Thursday, Feb. 28th.

Quorn—Scraptoft.

Found in the gorse, and ran to ground at the brook between Scraptoft and the Coplow. Found at Botany Bay, and after running for above an hour, killed him in the covert. Drew Norton Covert and found, but they fancied it was a vixen and took the hounds away. Drew Glen Gorse and Oadby Spinney blank. Found at Knighton Spinney, and ran a few fields.

“The Engineer.”

Saturday, March 2nd.

Belvoir—Landyke Lane.

Came down from London, and found the hounds at Melton Spinney; they had found a fox in the morning at the Old Hills, and killed him at the Harby Hills. We found at Melton Spinney and ran merrily up to Brentingby Spinney, then through Freeby Wood and Waltham Pasture, and killed him in Mr. Gillett's garden at Waltham. Found again at Croxton Lings, and ran to ground the other side of the park.

The New Horse.

Monday, March 4th.

Quorn—Kirby Gate.

Drew Gartree Hill, Burdett's Gorse, Thorpe Trussels, Cream Lodge, and Ashby Pasture, all blank. Found at Barkby Holt, and killed him in the covert. Drew Scraptoft blank.

"The Merry Shepherd."

"Leila."

Tuesday, March 5th.

Cottesmore—Tilton Wood.

Found in Tilton Wood, and ran him through Tugby Bushes, Loddington Redish, Launde Woods, to Wardley Wood; then to Allextan Wood, and back again to Wardley, where, after running in the wood for an hour and a half, the fox beat them, and they were obliged to leave him. Found at Prior's Coppice, and ran as hard as we could tilt to Launde Wood, where he was unluckily headed, and went back pointing for Wardley Wood, where I left them.

P.S.—They killed the fox in Wardley village. A very good day for hounds.

"The Engineer."

"Rowton."

Thursday, March 7th.

Quorn—Rolleston.

Drew Rolleston blank. Found, at Shankton Holt, a bad, ringing fox, and ran him round by Noseley, then up to Stanton Wood, leaving it just on the left, and lost him near Shankton Holt, after a run of about an hour, the hounds at times running very hard. Drew Stanton Wood blank. Found at Glooston Wood, and went away by Cranoe to Thorpe Langton; then turned to the right, through Langton Caldwell, almost to Church Langton; then to the right again, by Stanton Wyville, through Stanton Wood, and killed him

between Hallaton and Medbourne. A good day's sport, and a very hard day for horses and hounds.

The New Horse.

Friday, March 8th.

Quorn——Wartnaby Stone Pits.

Drew Holwell Mouth blank. Found in a little spinney near Cant's Thorns, and ran very fast up to Holwell Mouth, through the covert, and down the hill pointing for the vale, then to the left past Little Belvoir; then he turned sharp to the right, pointing for Broughton, which he left just on the left, almost to Hickling; then turned to the right, by Long Clawson, to Clawson Thorns, where, after running him in covert for about an hour, they lost him. A very good run. Found again, at Brudenell's Gorse, a bad fox; ran him up to Old Dalby, and back again by Grimston village to Shoby Scholes, and lost him.

"The Merry Shepherd."

George: "Rowton."

Saturday, March 9th.

Cottesmore——Langham.

Drew Ranksborough, Orton Park, and Lady Wood blank. Found at Owston Wood, and ran to ground just the other side of Woodbarrow Hill. Found again at Launde Big Wood, and ran through the Launde Woods to Wardley Wood, where they stayed a short time, and then went away, leaving Ayston on the right, by Manton Station and Lyndon to Gibbet's Gorse, through Hambleton Wood and Barnsdale Wood, and lost him between Burley Wood and Exton Park. A fine run, the last part of it slow. Tom Matthews hunted the hounds to-day, Butler having gone to Lord H. Bentinck's kennels. The dry ploughed fields between Hambleton and Exton saved this very good fox's life.

"The Engineer."

"Leila."

Monday, March 11th.

Belvoir—Croxton Park.

Found a fox at Bescaby Oaks, and lost him at Croxton village. Went to Croxton Lings; found, and ran a few fields towards Eastwell, and lost him. Found again at the Lings, and ran as hard as they could go across the park, and to ground in a drain near by Stonesby village. Found at Sproxton Thorns, and ran a ring very fast back to the covert. He came away again, and they ran as hard as they could to ground in the same drain at Stonesby. Got them out, and turned one down, and ran him as hard as they could tear for 26 minutes backwards and forwards, and killed near Sproxton Thorns. A cold, dry north wind, and hot sun, and a tremendous scent. The hounds ran all day like greyhounds.

The new horse—"Merry Andrew."

Tuesday, March 12th.

Cottesmore—Gunthorpe.

Drew Prior's Coppice blank. Found at Launde, and lost him near Loddington. Drew Loddington Redish blank. Found a fox travelling between Launde Wood and Tugby Wood. Laid the hounds on, and they ran very fast through Loddington Redish up to Vow's Gorse; turned to the left, and ran tremendously hard to Allextion Wood; then turned short back by Allextion Hall, almost over the same line up to Vow's Gorse, by Keythorpe Hall, through Loddington Redish, to Launde Wood, where he beat them. A very good run of about 1 hour and 10 minutes; a hot sun and westerly wind.

"The Merry Shepherd."

Thursday, March 14th.

Quorn—Baggrave.

Drew the Spinneys blank. Found at John o' Gaunt. Went away at the bottom of the covert, but turned sharp to

the left, and ran prettily for about 20 minutes or half an hour, by the Newton Hills and Quenby Hall, to Houghton-on-the-Hill, a little beyond which they lost him. Drew Scraptoft and Barkby Holt blank.

“The Engineer.”

“Leila.”

Saturday, March 16th.

Cottesmore——*Leesthorpe*.

Drew the new gorse covert* at Burton Lazars. Found a rattling good fox. Ran him up almost to Great Dalby, leaving it just on the right; then, bearing a little to the left, nearly to Burrow town, turned to the right by John o’ Gaunt, leaving Twyford just on the right; bore to the left again, up to Tilton town (45 minutes). Here there was a long check, but they hit him off again close to Tilton town, and killed him in a large grass field about a mile from Tilton on the Skeffington road. An hour and 10 minutes altogether, and one of the best runs I have seen over Leicestershire.

“Merry Andrew.”

“Leila.”

Monday, March 18th.

Belvoir——*Belvoir*.

Found a fox at the Kennel Gorse. He ran round by the Woolthorpe Plantations to Muston Gorse and to the Redmile covert, where they ran him round and round for a long time; and the hounds caught hold of him once by the brush, but by some miracle he escaped—got up to Belvoir, among the “pleasure paths,” as Goodall calls them, and beat them. Found at Croxton Banks, but there was no scent, and they could do nothing.

“The Engineer.”

“Rowton.”

* This was the first time the covert, recently made by some Melton gentlemen, was ever drawn. After existing for a few years, it was unfortunately ploughed up by the owner.

Tuesday, March 19th.

Cottesmore—Loddington.

Found in Tugby Wood a right good sort of fox. He went through Loddington Redish up to Allextion Wood, on to Stockerston Wood, to Easton Park Wood, by Holt village, Drayton, Bringhurst, across the Welland, just to the right of Rockingham Castle, where I left them with their heads pointing for Brampton and the forest. The only place we could have changed foxes was in Easton Park, but I believe we did not change anywhere. A fine hunting run over a magnificent country, but not fast.

“The Merry Shepherd.”

“Leila.”

Saturday, March 23rd.

Cottesmore—Market Overton.

Found at Woodwell Head. He went away pointing for Thistleton; turned to the right, leaving Market Overton and Burrow on the right hand, through Cottesmore Gorse, across the canal, leaving Ashwell on the right, up to Ranksborough; came away again, and ran to ground in a drain close to Whissendine village. A very good fox, but a blowing, stormy day, and a bad scent.

“The Engineer.”

“Rowton.”

We had a little rain on Friday, the first that has fallen for more than a month. Saturday and Sunday, storms of snow and sleet, with a cold drying wind from the north-west.

A sharp frost again on Sunday night. The thermometer on Monday morning was 24° ; on Tuesday morning, 18° ; and on Wednesday, 18° . Thursday morning, the thermometer again down at 18° ; Good Friday, thermometer 22° . The thermometer at Weston has been down to 3° !!!

Tuesday, April 2nd.

Belvoir——Belvoir.

Drew Barkston Woods blank. Found near the Dairy. Did no good.

“The Merry Shepherd.”

John Bridgeman: “Rowton.”

“The Merry Shepherd,” “Engineer,” and “Merry Andrew” started for Weston on Thursday, 4th.

Saturday, April 6th.

Belvoir——Stathern Point.

Found at Holwell Mouth, and ran by Wartnaby and Saxelby to Shoby Scholes, then turned to the left, crossed the river and the railway at Frisby, ran him in view up to the turnpike-road, and along the road as hard as they could lick to Kirby; up to which point it must have been about 50 minutes; he then turned back, crossed the river, and they ran him back by Welby Pond to Holwell Mouth and round to Kettleby, near which they lost him; a very fine run, and stout fox.

“Rowton.”

Thursday, April 11th.

Belvoir——Stathern Point.

Found at Piper Hole Gorse, ran two or three fields, and lost him. Found at Goadby Gorse, and killed him near Waltham after a rather pretty twisting run of about 30 minutes. Found again at Waltham Pasture, and lost him near Melton Spinney. Drew Stonesby Gorse blank; and then at half-past five o'clock found at Croxton Lings, ran to Piper Hole, where they stopped the hounds.

“Leila.”

1850—51.*

Came to Melton, November 28th, 1850. A sharp frost set in and stopped hunting till

Monday, Dec. 2nd.

Belvoir—Croxton Park.

Found at Stonesby Gorse, and ran to ground near Harlaxton. Found at Herring's Gorse, but did nothing.

"Rowton."

Tuesday, Dec. 3rd.

Quorn—Saxelby.

Found at Goodricke's Gorse, went away pointing for Holwell, then to the left by Kettleby, leaving Saxelby on the left, almost to Ashfordby, then bore round to the left by Welby to Wartnaby Stone Pits, down into the vale, and killed him between Hickling and Broughton: a very good run—an hour and 19 minutes—first 42 minutes very brilliant.

"The Merry Shepherd."

"Leila."

Wednesday, Dec. 4th.

Did not hunt. The *Belvoir* had rather a good run from Hose.

* Horses: "The Engineer."

"The Merry Shepherd."

"Merry Andrew."

"Rowton."

"Leila."

Thursday, Dec. 5th.

Cottesmore—Kennels.

Drew Exton Park blank. Found at Woodwell Head, and after hanging about there half the day, came away in the evening, and ran very prettily up to Sewstern village (25 minutes), and killed in a spinney between that village and Coltersworth.

“Merry Andrew.”

Friday, Dec. 6th.

Did not hunt. The *Quorn* had a good day at Wymeswold.
* Colville dislocated his wrist.

Saturday, Dec. 7th.

Cottesmore—Leesthorpe.

Drew Burton Gorse blank. Found at the Punch-bowl, and after running a little ring, lost him near Burdett's Covert. Found again at the Punch-bowl, but did nothing. A foggy day.

A horse of Atkinson's. †

“Leila.”

H. Lyster ‡: “Rowton.”

Monday, Dec. 9th.

Belvoir—Piper Hole.

A sharp frost on Sunday; but good hunting at twelve o'clock; found at the Old Hills, ran a ring by Holwell village, and back to the Old Hills; found another fox, and after running another ring by Kettleby village and Holwell, killed him in the covert at the Old Hills.

“Merry Shepherd.”

“Leila.”

* Lord Colville.

† The late Mr. Atkinson, of Melton Lodge.

‡ The late Henry Lyster, Esq., of Rowton Castle, Shropshire.

Friday, Dec. 13th.

Quorn—Six Hills.

Found at Mundy's Gorse, and lost him beyond Burton. Drew Stanford Park and some other coverts in the Donnington country, but did not find another fox.

"Rowton."

Monday, Dec. 16th.

Quorn—Lovesby.

Found at John o' Gaunt, a bad fox, and left him in the covert. Found at the Coplow, a bad fox, who went to ground near Lovesby, bolted him, and he went to ground again near Botany Bay. A bad scent.

"The Engineer."

"Merry Andrew."

Tuesday, Dec. 17th.

Cottesmore—Launde Abbey.

Found in the Abbey Wood, gave him one turn round the big wood, and slipped away over Woodbarrow Hill before anybody could see them; when they got over the hill they turned short to the right pointing for Owston Wood, left the wood about one field on the right, then turned to the left by Owston village, and lost him near Burrow village. It must have been a very good thing, but nobody caught the hounds till they got to Owston village, when the fastest part was over. Drew the Punch-bowl blank; found in Owston Wood, but did nothing.

"The Merry Shepherd."

"Leila."

Wednesday, Dec. 18th.

Belvoir—Piper Hole.

Found at Melton Spinney, and went away with five and a-half couple of hounds by Scalford village, and through

Goadby Park, where they stopped them. Found again at Goadby Gorse, and ran as hard as they could up to Croxton Lings through the park, when unfortunately a fresh fox jumped up, the hounds divided at Bescaby Oaks, and they lost their fox; the first 20 minutes they raced. Found again at Stonesby Gorse, ran as hard as they could race to Goadby Gorse (15 minutes), leaving it just on the left, then turned to the right by Croxton Park, through the park, and leaving Croxton village just on the right, killed him at Hallam's Wood; one hour and two minutes; a capital day's sport.

“The Engineer.”

“Rowton.”

Thursday there was a heavy fall of snow, and hunting was stopped in most places till the 24th of December.

Friday, Dec. 27th.

Quorn—Ratcliffe.

Found at Cossington Gorse, and had one of the finest fox-hunting runs on record; we ran by Thrussington Wold, Lord Aylesford's covert, through Shoby Scholes, then turned to the right, nearly to Ashfordby, then bore to the left towards Kettleby, left Kettleby just on the left, and to the Old Hills, up to which it was a fair pace, 50 minutes; he did not go into the covert at the Old Hills, but held on by Scal-ford, leaving Waltham on the left, by Stonesby Gorse without going in, on nearly to Coston village, then bore a little to the left by Sproxton to Saltby, then on by Humberstone and Tippet's Gorses, and by the Three Queens, and killed him in a grass field on the opposite side of the turnpike-road from Denton Hall: altogether about 4 hours, of which the last $2\frac{1}{2}$ hours was all slow hunting, the hounds doing all the work themselves; the point was $18\frac{1}{2}$ miles; he was found within 6 miles of Leicester, and killed within $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles of Grantham.

“The Merry Shepherd.”

“Leila.”

Saturday, Dec. 28th.

Belvoir——Piper Hole.

Found at Clawson Thorns, and ran to ground in a drain. Found at the Old Hills another bad fox, and killed him on the hill side opposite Eastwell. Drew Goadby Gorse blank. Found at Croxton Lings, but did no good.

“The Engineer.”

“Rowton.”

Monday, Dec. 30th.

Belvoir——Crofton Park.

Found at Brentingby Spinney, and lost him near Scalford. Found at Melton Spinney, and killed at Thorpe Arnold—a fox with a snare round his neck. Found at Brentingby Spinney again, and ran up close to Newport Lodge, so I came home, my horse having got a sore back.

“Merry Andrew.”

Wednesday, Jan. 1st, 1851.

Mr. Meynell Ingram——Drakelow.

Found three foxes at Drakelow, but did nothing. Found at Lullington Gorse, and killed near Gopsall, after a pretty hunting run.

“Rowton.”

Friday, Jan. 3rd.

Quorn——Syston.

Found at Barkby Holt, a bagged fox caught near Melton and supposed to inhabit “Wyndham” Spinney, and turned down by F. Grant, killed him just beyond Syston station, after a very merry 30 minutes. Found at Scraftoft, but I did not get away with the hounds, and came home. They lost their fox near Oadby.

“The Merry Shepherd.”

Saturday, Jan. 4th.

Quorn—Wartnaby Stone Pits.

Found at Goodricke's Gorse, and ran up to Kettleby, where we joined the *Belvoir* hounds, and ran a fox to ground near Little Belvoir; they bolted him, and ran him rather prettily down into the vale, round Broughton village, back again, and to ground under the hill near Wartnaby, and got him out and killed. Sir R. Sutton sent his hounds home, and we drew the Old Hills, where there was a fox, but we could not get him away.

"Merry Andrew."

"Leila."

The *Belvoir* hounds had a magnificent run on the 3rd—from Kirby Wood to Dembleby Thorns; and on the 4th the *Cottesmore* had a very fine run, thus described by Colonel Lowther:—" * * * but with the second fox no hounds could run faster for 40 or 45 minutes; they found him well, and went away close to his brush from Overton Park, cutting a corner of Lady Wood, a corner of Owston Little Wood, running alongside of the Great Wood, leaving it on the right, then pointed for Tilton Wood, was turned, and ran by the Lodge under Robin-a-Tiptoe, for Launde Great Wood, took a turn there, over Tiptoe, down a ride of Tilton Wood, by Skeffington, as if he meant Billesdon, came round by Green's House (Rolleston), leaving it on his left, near to the Gorse Covert, between the Hardwicks and Noseley Woods, to the brook under Stanton Wood, within a field of Shankton village, through the Holt, and about two fields on the Rolleston side the hounds ran into him: about 1 hour and 40 minutes from first finding." Would that I had been there to see!

Monday, Jan. 6th.

Belvoir—Croxton Park.

Found at Coston, and ran to Stapleford Park, where they were stopped. Found at Newman's Gorse; a wretched scent, and nothing to be done.

"The Engineer."

Tuesday, Jan. 7th.

Quorn——Six Hills.

Found at Mundy's Gorse, and ran prettily to Wartnaby Stone Pits, crossed the road by Little Belvoir, where I believe we changed foxes; however, he went away over the vale, and we ran him to ground in Edwalton Covert, about three miles from Nottingham; an eleven mile point from Holwell Mouth; a very fine fox-hunting run. I regretted that so good a fox should be dug out and killed.

“Rowton.”

The *Cottesmore* met at Launde to-day, and had another fine run, killing their fox at Burrow.

Thursday, Jan. 9th.

Quorn——Lowesby.

Drew John o' Gaunt blank. Found at the Coplow, and ran by John o' Gaunt and Owston village, through Owston Wood to Launde Wood, where he beat us. No pace.

“The Merry Shepherd.”

Saturday, Jan. 11th.

Cottesmore——Knossington.

The order was given for Prior's Coppice; but, unfortunately, some amateur influence was brought to bear upon the good nature of the master, and we right-about-faced and trotted back to Burton Covert—blank! Little Dalby blank, too. And, to crown the misfortunes of the morning, they chopped a fox in the little osier covert between Dalby and Somerby. We then went to Ranksborough, and were repaid for the disappointments of the morning. The fox first went away pointing for Cold Overton, but he turned to the right, went down to the turnpike road, ran along it a few hundred yards towards Oakham, then bore to the right, leaving Lang-

ham on the left, pointing for Manton. We left Brook village about half a mile on the right; on to Martinthorpe, then turned to the right, and came back, leaving Brook village on right hand, to Prior's Coppice, through the covert and through Barfoot's Wood (or Cheseldine's Coppice), and killed him just over the brook under Lady Wood. A very nice run. An hour and 10 minutes from the time he left the gorse.

"Merry Andrew."

Monday, Jan. 13th.

Belvoir—Langar.

Killed a maimed fox at Langar. Drew Key Wood and some other places blank. Found at Hose Gorse, and ran prettily up to Barkston Wood. Brought a fox away by Eaton and Branston, and there I left them. After I went home, they ran very hard for an hour, and killed their fox.

"Rowton."

Tuesday, Jan. 14th.

Quorn—Thrussington.

Drew the Brooksby Spinneys. Found at Cream Lodge. Went away pointing for Frisby; then turned to the right, leaving Kirby on the left, down to the river, but turned again to the right by Guadaloupe, and down nearly to Brentingby; then turned up to the right, and ran him to ground in a gravel-pit at Burton Lazars. A very pretty run of about an hour. Sir Richard was not out, having hurt his knee on Friday. Went and found at Gartree Hill; but there appeared to be not much scent, and I came home.

"The Engineer."

Wednesday, Jan. 15th.

Belvoir—Stonesby.

Found at Melton Spinney, and ran up, leaving Waltham on the left, to Croxton Park, where I left them and came

home with Lady Newport, who tore her habit. They afterwards had a very pretty gallop down to Stapleford, and back to Melton Spinney; horses very much beat. The fox got up into a tree in Croxton Park and grinned at the British public, then came down again and gave them a very good run.*

“Merry Andrew.”

“Leila.”

Thursday, Jan. 16th.

Quorn—Oadby Kennels.

Trotted away and drew the Knighton Spinneys, to get rid of the foot people, of whom there were about 2,000 at the meet. Found at Glen Gorse. The fox went up to The Laurels, at Stretton, and was mobbed in every direction; he got back to the gorse, went away, and was killed near Evington. Found at Shankton Holt, but there appeared to be no scent, and they soon lost their fox.

“The Merry Shepherd.”

Friday, Jan. 17th.

Quorn—Prestwold.

Met at 12 o'clock. Found a fox in the plantation near the house, most auspiciously for a large party of ladies staying at Mr. Packe's; then went off to Bunny, but found Mrs. Burt and her friends were shooting there. Drew Wysall Spinney, Willoughby and Ella's Gorse blank. Found, late in the afternoon, at Thrussington Wold, and ran over a fine line to Saxelby village, where we gave it up.

“Rowton.”

Monday, Jan. 20th.

Belvoir—Piper Hole.

Found at Clawson Thorns. Ran to Holwell Mouth, where there was a delay of a short time. Went away again down

* This curious scene forms the subject of a piece of plate presented to Lord Forester by the gentlemen and farmers of the Belvoir Hunt.

the hill below Little Belvoir, leaving it on the left, and then turned up the hill through Wartnaby Stone Pits to Grimston Gorse, through Grimston village, by Shoby Scholes and Ragdale, to Thrussington Wolds; left Mundy's Gorse on the right, almost to Walton Thorns, then turned to the right, pointing for Willoughby; left Ella's Gorse on the left, and killed him at Broughton village, after a very fine run of an hour and 35 minutes. Up to Thrussington Wolds the fox ran up wind, and the pace was not very good; but after that they mended it, and ran very hard. Lady Newport was out on "Becky Sharp," and saw most of the run.

"The Engineer."

Wednesday, Jan. 22nd.

Belvoir—Three Queens.

Found at the School Plats, and lost him near Harlaxton. Drew Tipping's and Humberston Gorses blank, and Herring's Gorse also blank. Found in the evening at Swallow Hole, and killed at Harston village, after a very merry 27 minutes. Most of the field had gone home.

"Rowton."

Friday, Jan. 24th.

Quorn—Ashfordby.

Drew Gartree Hill blank, but a fox was viewed away directly the hounds had left it. Drew Burdett's covert and Thorpe Trussel's blank. Found at Ashby Pasture, and went away to Ashby Folville, leaving Barsby on the right, within two fields of Lowesby, leaving Maresfield on the right, by Burrow to Burrow Hill, where there was a long check: a good pace up to Burrow Hill; hit it off again through the Punch-bowl, and leaving Pickwell on the right, on to Ranksborough, which he only skirted, left Langham on the right, and Ashwell just on the left, within a field of Cottesmore Gorse, by the spinneys under Burley, and by Cottesmore

village to Exton Park ; here they came to difficulties with the hares, pheasants, &c.; the servants' horses were all beat off a long way, and out of a very large field only five or six of us were able to reach Exton. This was nearly the finest fox-hunting run I ever saw ; the point is a good 13 miles, but we went an immense way round, and were not running more than 1 hour and 45 or 50 minutes.

“ Merry Andrew.”

“ Leila.”

Monday, Jan. 27th.

Belvoir—Croxtan Park.

Chopped a fox in Coston Covert ; came away with another which we lost near Sproxton Thorns. Found again at Sproxton, and ran down to Stapleford, where the hounds were nearly being destroyed by an up and a down train meeting close to the railings of the park. Drew Newman's Gorse blank. Found at Waltham Pasture, but there appeared a bad scent, and I left them.

“ The Merry Shepherd.”

Tuesday, Jan. 28th.

Cottesmore—Brook Hall.

Found at Prior's Coppice, and ran by Belton to Wardley Wood, through the wood, leaving Bisbrook Gorse just on the left, Uppingham on the left, across the Welland just below Harringworth, soon after which we lost him : a most capital fox, and a good run, but the hounds were over-ridden occasionally, which saved the fox's life.

“ The Engineer.”

“ Leila.”

Note.—I heard to-day that our fox, which we lost at Burley on Friday, was seen on Saturday at twelve o'clock, by a labourer, lying in a ditch, and was with difficulty stirred up ; had we persevered a few minutes longer and killed him, it would have been far the best run I ever saw.

Wednesday, Jan. 29th.

Belvoir—Piper Hole.

Found at Clawson Thorns; ran him to Holwell Mouth, back again to Clawson Thorns and killed him. Found at the Old Hills; and afterwards at Goadby, but did nothing; they went to Croxton Lings, and I went home.

“Rowton.”

Thursday, Jan. 30th.

Quorn—Barkby.

Drew Barkby Holt blank. Found at Scraftoft, two foxes, and two more at the Coplow, but had no sport at all.

“The Merry Shepherd.”

Friday, Jan. 31st.

Quorn—Rateliffe.

Found at Cossington, ran a ring round the Jesuit College, and back to the gorse, which he just skirted and went away towards Walton village, turned to the left down to the railway near Barrow, and was killed at Rateliffe after a very severe ringing run of 1 hour and 15 minutes altogether, about 45 minutes from the last time of leaving the gorse, and the pace very good all the time: very severe for horses. Lord Elcho* was out, and rode close to the hounds all day.

“Merry Andrew.”

P.S.—After I went home they drew Walton Thorns, and after another good ring of 50 minutes, killed a second fox: this was a capital day for hounds.

Saturday, Feb. 1st.

Cottesmore—Market Overton.

Found at Woodwell Head; he went away pointing for Langham, but turned back to the left through Cottesmore Gorse towards Exton, where they lost him. Went to Burley Wood, and ran for some time in covert, but did nothing more.

“The Engineer.”

“Leila.”

* The Earl of Wemyss.

Monday, Feb. 3rd.

Belvoir—Landyke Lane.

Drew Holwell Mouth and the Old Hills blank. Found at Melton Spinney, and after a dodging run killed between Goadby Park and Eastwell. Drew Brentingby Spinney blank, and then went home.

“The Merry Shepherd.”

“Rowton.”

Thursday, Feb. 6th.

Quorn—Brooksby.

Found at Cream Lodge, and walked after him by Gartree Hill towards Brentingby, where we lost him. Found at Burdett's Gorse, and ran to ground in Gartree Hill. A wretched scenting day, and no sport. We did not hunt till near one o'clock, having waited for Lord Yarborough.

“The Engineer.”

Friday, Feb. 7th.

Quorn—Ragdale.

Drew Goodricke's Gorse, Grimston Gorse, and Old Dalby Wood, all blank. Found at Mundy's Gorse, and ran *very hard* up to Wymeswold, where he was headed, and we ran him back to near Ella's Gorse, where Sutton lost him,—I think, very unjustifiably. Drew Willoughby, Ella's and Thrusington Wolds, but did not find again.

“The Merry Shepherd.”

Saturday, Feb. 8th.

Cottesmore—Langham.

Drew Ranksborough, Overton Park, and Lady Wood blank. Found in Owston Great Wood, and ran to ground in a drain at Mr. Wilson's* limestone quarry. Drew Tilton Wood. Found at Loddington Redish, and ran to ground

* Afterwards Lord Berners.

again at the Stone-pit Plantations; bolted him, and killed him in Tilton Wood. Drew Launde Park Wood, but did not find again.

“Merry Andrew.”

“Leila.”

Monday, Feb. 10th.

Belvoir—Plungar.

Found at Hose Gorse; ran prettily up to Clawson Thorns, where he went to ground. Found again at Piper Hole; ran along the hills to Stathern Point, when he turned across the vale, and we had a right merry scurry to ground in a drain at Hose village; 20 minutes altogether from Piper Hole. Found again at Harby Covert, and killed a disabled fox a few fields from the covert. Found again at Granby Gap; and I left them running up to Belvoir, having to go up to London by the train.

“The Engineer.”

“Rowton.”

Saturday, Feb. 15th.

Cottesmore—Crown Point.

Found at Gunby Gorse. Ran by Coston Covert to Sproxton Thorns, then back to Coston; away again, and ran by Garthorpe and Freeby, then bore to right by Stonesby Spinney to Stonesby Gorse, between Waltham and Croxton Park; hit him off again across the turnpike road, pointing for Goadby, and then lost him. It was 1 hour and 30 minutes up to Stonesby Spinney. Forester was out, and let him draw Croxton Lings, where we found, and ran up to the Belvoir plantations. A good day's sport, though apparently only a moderate scenting day.

“The Merry Shepherd.”

Was laid up with influenza till Friday, 21st, when I went to London; came down again on the 26th.

Thursday, Feb. 27th.

Quorn—Alexton.

Drew Stockerston Woods blank. Found at Marilebone Hole, and ran through Stockerston and Alexton Woods, pointing for Launde; but he was headed, and went back through Wardly Wood and Stoke End, and pointed for Easton Park, when I left them. A cold north wind, and the country terribly dry and hard.

“The Merry Shepherd.”

Saturday, March 1st.

Cottesmore—Leesthorpe.

Drew Burton Gorse and Little Dalby, blank. Found at Ranksborough, and, after a long delay in the gorse, ran to ground at Cold Overton; I fancy it was a vixen who had laid up her cubs. Drew Overton Park Wood and Lady Wood blank. Went to Owston Wood, where there was no fox, though the hounds owned a stale scent in the covert. A wretched, cold, dry day, with a north wind. Sutton hunted at Wartnaby to-day instead of Friday, which was a selfish thing to do, in my opinion; he found at Goodricke's Gorse, and also at Shoby Scholes.

“The Engineer.”

Monday, March 3rd.

Belvoir—Croxtan Park.

Drew Newman's Gorse, Waltham Pasture and Freeby Wood, blank. Found at Brentingby Spinney, and ran up wind to Melton Spinney, ran back by Brentingby Spinney, and marked him to ground near Stapleford.

“Rowton.”

Thursday, March 6th.

Quorn—Brooksby.

Chopped a fox in Cream Gorse; left another in the gorse, one in the little spinney close by, and a fourth in Ashby

Pasture, but could not run them. Drew Thorpe Trussels blank; very odd that it should not hold a fox this year. Found at Burdett's Gorse and ran up to little Dalby, and lost him near the Punch-bowl. Drew Gartree Hill blank. We had a little rain yesterday, but to-day a cold, drying north wind again.

“The Merry Shepherd.”

Monday, March 10th.

Quorn——Barkby.

It began to rain yesterday evening, and rained all night, and has snowed nearly all to-day. We found at Barkby Holt, and lost him near Lowesby. Found again at the Coplow, a capital fox, who slipped away directly, and went to the Newton Hills, leaving Tilton on his right, John o' Gaunt on the right, up to Somerby, where the snow was thick, and on by Knossington to Overton Park Wood, where they lost him.

“The Engineer.”

“Leila.”

Tuesday, March 11th.

Cottesmore——Ayston.

Drew Wardly Wood, blank. Found at Stoke End, and went away through Marilebone Hole pointing for the Welland, when he turned to the right and ran back through Stockerston Woods, back through Easton Park, up to Holt, and they lost him near Drayton village; we then went to Loddington Redish, where we found a very good fox; he went away by Keythorpe and the Ram's Head, left Keythorpe Wood on the right, to Glooston Wood, then to Stanton Wood, where he bore to the right, crossed the brook pointing for Church Langton, and went up almost to Shankton Holt, then turned to the right, through the Hardwickses, and by Noseley, back to Keythorpe, and through Tugby Bushes

to Tilton Wood, where I gave it up, my horse being quite beat: the pace was very good, and over a grand country; from finding till we got back to Keythorpe the time was about an hour, and the distance must have been nine or ten miles: altogether one of the best things I have seen this year.

“Merry Andrew.”

Thursday, March 13th.

Quorn——Mowsley.

Found at Walton Holt, ran a ring, and to ground at North Kilworth. Drew Bosworth Gorse blank. Found at the Laughton Hills, ran up to Gumley where we got on a fresh fox, and ran very prettily over a tremendously stiff line by Langton to near Stanton Wyville, where they checked, and hunted slowly up to Stanton Wood. Only eight with the hounds, comprising Sir Richard (who rode uncommonly well), Frank and Charles Sutton, Crawford, a Leicester doctor, Jack and George Beers, and self; was splendidly carried.

“The Merry Shepherd.”

Friday, March 14th.

Quorn——Old Dalby.

Drew Grimston Gorse, Dalby Wood, and Schoby Scholes, blank. Found at Thrussington Wold, and had a very good 35 minutes' running by Hoby, Saxelby, and Welby, and losing him near Lord Aylesford's covert. Found at Mundy's Gorse, but did nothing.

“Rowton.”

Saturday, March 15th.

Cottesmore——Crown Point.

Drew Gunby Gorse blank. Found at Woodwell Head, three or four foxes; went away with one, but were obliged to stop the hounds near Edmonthorpe, having got upon Lord

Harborough's land. Went back and found another fox at Woodwell Head, came away leaving Teigh on the right, bore to the left up to Cottesmore Gorse and pointed for Burley Wood, but turned to the right and pointed for Ranksborough, and we lost him at the railway near Barleythorpe: they ran very prettily for about 25 minutes. Drew Ranksborough blank. Found at Overton Park Wood, came away pointing for Knossington, but turned to the right as if for Ranksborough, then bore to the left and ran a ring round Cold Overton village, leaving it on the left up to Knossington, where there was a short check; soon hit it off again and ran down to the edge of Lady Wood, then bore to the right nearly to Owston Wood, then to the left, skirted Launde Park Wood, then bore to the left towards Branston, then turned to the right by Lye Lodge and pointed for Loddington Redish, leaving Loddington Hall on the right, crossed the brook and the turnpike road, leaving East Norton on the right, and pulled him down in a grass field between East Norton and the Ram's Head, after one of the finest runs that ever was seen: it was 1 hour and 4 minutes, and the pace first-rate from end to end, over a grand country, and in all respects a magnificent run. I rode the same horse all day, and was admirably carried to the end.

“The Engineer.”

Mem.—This has been one of the most brilliant week's sport I ever saw.

Monday, March 17th.

Belvoir—Croxton Park.

Found at Coston Covert, and ran a good pace up to Sproxton Thorns, and after hanging there a short time ran by Stonesby village, and to ground at Croxton Park. Found at Stonesby Gorse, but it came on to rain heavily, and we did nothing.

“Rowton.”

Tuesday was another tremendously wet day, and I did not hunt.

Thursday, March 20th.

Belvoir—Eastwell.

Went to Clawson Thorns, where we unfortunately killed a vixen fox. Drew Holwell Mouth blank. Found at the Bullamoors, he slipped away directly, up to Eastwell, leaving it just on the left, went nearly to Exton, then bore off to the right, skirted Croxton Lings, across the park, left Bescaby Oaks to the left, up to Saltby, leaving it on the right by Lord's Gorse and Humberston Gorse, and killed him between Denton and Harlaxton, after a capital 57 minutes.

"Merry Andrew."

"Leila."

Friday, March 21st.

Quorn—Bunny.

Drew Debdale Gorse and the Bunny Coverts blank; Prestwold and Burton ditto; found at Walton Thorns, and ran up to Mundy's Gorse, back again to Walton Thorns, away again, and lost him near the Foss Lane, and ran into a polecat.

"Rowton."

Saturday, March 22nd.

Cottesmore—Tilton Wood.

Killed a fox in Loddington Redish in a trap: rather a fortunate circumstance, as Lord Berners was out, and had ocular demonstration of the rascality of his keepers. Found another fox in the Redish, and lost him near Skeffington. Found at Owston Wood, but did nothing; a soaking wet day, and apparently no scent.

"The Merry Shepherd."

Monday, March 24th.

Quorn—Barkby.

Drew Barkby Holt blank; on the way to Barkby Thorpe Spinneys we found three foxes in a ploughed field, unluckily the hounds got on one which proved to be a vixen very heavy

in cub, and were stopped; tried to get on the line of the dog-fox, but unsuccessfully, though we heard of him going up to the Coplow; did not find at the Coplow; found at Seraptoft; but after running a few fields, Sutton managed to lose him; went to Glen, where he found, but did no good.

“The Engineer.”

“Leila.”

Saturday, March 29th.

Cottesmore——*Market Overton*.

Found at Woodwell Head, but did not do much, and lost him near Thistleton. Drew Cottesmore Gorse blank. Found at Burley Wood, but did nothing worth mention.

“The Merry Andrew.”

“Leila.”

Monday, March 31st.

Belvoir——*Croxton Park*.

Found at Coston, ran up to Sproxton and Freeby. Found at Croxton Lings, and a good deal of galloping and hunting. Wilton* rode “Rowton.”

“The Merry Shepherd.”

“The Engineer.”

Tuesday and Wednesday were Croxton Park Races, after which I went to London. Came down April 16th.

Thursday, April 17th.

Belvoir——*Belvoir Stables*.

Found at Barkeston Wood, but the hounds could not run at all. Killed a mangy dog-fox on the Kennel bank: making $58\frac{1}{2}$ brace in all, and 34 brace killed since the 1st of November by these hounds. Went to Croxton Lings, where we found three or four foxes, but did nothing with them.

“Rowton.”

It is rather a remarkable fact that I have hunted all this season *without ever having had a fall* of any description whatever.

* The Earl of Wilton.



Came to Melton on Saturday, Nov. 15th; Sunday, a sharp frost; Monday, 17th, the hounds came to Croxton Park, and then went home again.

No hunting till

Saturday, Nov. 22nd.

Cottesmore—Knossington.

Found at Owston Wood, ran over Robin-a-Tiptoe, through Launde Abbey Wood, through Tugby Bushes, and lost him. Drew Tilton and Skeffington Woods, blank, and the John o' Gaunt Gorse, blank; found again at Owston Wood, came away as before, then bore to the left, through Launde Park Wood, almost to Prior's Coppice, then bore to the left back again nearly to Owston Wood, by Witheote, where I left them at sunset running towards Launde Wood.

"Tom of Lincoln."

"Leila."

* Horses:—

"Merry Shepherd."

"The Engineer."

"Merry Andrew."

"Rowton."

"Leila."

"Tom of Lincoln."

"The Bishop" (George's).

Monday, Nov. 24th.

Belvoir—Croxtan Park.

Found at Sproxton Thorns, and ran prettily by Waltham, across the turnpike road, pointing for Goadby, when he turned to the right, to Croxtan Lings, came away with another fox through the park, through Bescaby Oaks, through Croxtan Lings again, and lost him at Knipton Reservoir. Found at Goadby Gorse, but did nothing.

“Merry Shepherd.”

“The Bishop.”

Tuesday, Nov. 25th.

The *Quorn* hounds did not hunt; the *Belvoir* hunted at Ancaster, but had not any sport.

Wednesday, Nov. 26th.

Belvoir—Piper Hole.

The frost very sharp, but we hunted at one o'clock, and the riding was very good in the vale. Found at Hose Gorse, and ran merrily as far as Clawson village, where there was a long check; hunted him by Clawson Thorns to the Old Hills, and, after ringing about for some time, gave him up. Found at Holwell Mouth, but did nothing.

“Merry Andrew.”

* Edmund: “Leila.”

Friday, Nov. 28th.

Cottesmore—Crown Point (Bye-day).

Found at Gunby Gorse, ran up by Sewstern to Buckminster Park very fast, came away towards Coston, but turned to the left, and hunted back to Gunby; went to Woodwell Head, and killed a fox in the covert, possibly our hunted fox; found two more foxes in the covert, came away with one by Edmonthorpe and Wymondham, where he turned back for Woodwell Head, and I left them. Scent not so good as in the morning, and the ground dreadfully hard.

“Tom of Lincoln.”

Edmund: “Rowton.”

* The Rev. E. W. O. Bridgeman.

Thermometer, Saturday morning, 25°; in the night, 22°.
 Sunday, hard frost; Monday, ditto.

Tuesday, Dec. 2nd.

Cottesmore—Normanton Park.

Found two or three foxes in a covert of Sir Gilbert's, and ran one to ground at Ketton Stone Pits. Found again in Empingham Wood, but the scent was wretched, and we did nothing.

"The Merry Shepherd."

Wednesday, Dec. 3rd.

Belvoir—Waltham.

Found at Waltham Pasture, came away over the road, pointing for Melton Spinney, then they turned to the right, and the ground was so hard that I came home; they killed their fox near Waltham, and afterwards drew Sproxton Thorns.

"Tom of Lincoln."

George: "Leila."

Friday, Dec. 5th.

Quorn—Wartnaby Stone Pits.

Found at Goodricke's Gorse (two foxes); the hounds never settled to their fox, but we hunted him by Kettleby, and lost him near Holwell Mouth; after long deliberation, Sir Richard decided not to draw it, and went to Grimston Gorse, where there were three foxes; unfortunately, they made a mess of it, and lost them all. Drew Shoby Scholes, Aylesford's Gorse, and Thrussington Wolds blank, and so ended a wretched day's sport.

"Merry Andrew."

Saturday, Dec. 6th.

Cottesmore—Ashwell.

Drew Ranksborough, Overton Park, and Lady Wood blank. Found at Owston Wood, but he went to ground in a drain just outside the wood. Found at Launde Park Wood, and went away towards Prior's Coppice, but they lost him almost directly. Went to Prior's Coppice, but drew it blank. Another miserable day's sport.

"The Merry Shepherd."

George: "Rowton."

I heard afterwards that at the time we left Prior's Coppice the hounds had found, and were running at the other end of the covert, and that there were two foxes in the covert!!

Monday, Dec. 8th.

Belvoir—Stonesby.

Found at Brentingby Spinney, and lost him at Saxby village. Found at Melton Spinney, ran by Brentingby Spinney, and again lost our fox near Saxby. Found at Goadby Gorse, and ran by Braunston to Croxton Lings, over the park, leaving Waltham on the left, back to Goadby Gorse, and then nearly to Scalford, when it was dark and the scent bad, and they stopped the hounds.

"Tom of Lincoln."

"Leila."

Thursday, Dec. 11th.

Quorn—Lowesby.

Drew the Coplow, and Quenby and Hungerton Spinneys blank. Went to Barkby Holt, and found a fox in the hedge outside the covert; they ran him very hard once round the covert, and away towards Baggrave, when, unfortunately, he went to ground in a drain close to Baggrave. Drew Barkby Thorpe blank. Went to Scraftoft, and found in the spin-

ney by the gorse, ran up to Ingersby, where we lost him. I suppose he went to ground somewhere, but they could not mark him.

“Merry Andrew.”

George: “Rowton.”

Friday, Dec. 12th.

Quorn—Wymeswold.

Found at Willoughby Gorse, ran up to the lane and lost him. Drew Ella's Gorse blank, and Mundy's Gorse blank. Found at Walton Thorns, ran hard up to the Foss Lane, and for half a mile up the lane, when they checked and lost him. Drew Lord Aylesford's Gorse, and Brudenell Gorse blank.

“The Merry Shepherd.”

Saturday, Dec. 13th.

Belvoir—Piper Hole.

Drew Holwell Mouth blank. Found at Clawson Thorns, ran a few fields down into the vale, and lost him: the fog was so thick, we could not see across a field. Drew Piper Hole Gorse, found, and ran up to the Eastwell, and Harby Road, and back to Piper Hole—when the fog was so thick that they stopped the hounds.

“Tom of Lincoln.”

“Leila.”

Monday, Dec. 15th.

Quorn—Shearsby Inn.

Found at the New Gorse at John Ball, ran a little ring, and back to John Ball, when he went away, and we ran him to ground in a drain at Gumley: 25 minutes, very good pace, and with only one or two short checks. Found at Gumley Wood, a ringing fox, when I left them, having to go to Weston.

“Merry Andrew.”

“Rowton.”

“Friday, Dec. 19th.

A little rain fell this morning, the first we have had this season, with the exception of an hour's rain one afternoon.

Saturday, Dec. 20th.

Cottesmore——*Ridlington*.

Drew Preston (or, as it used to be called, Manton) Gorse blank. Drew Prior's Coppice blank, but found in the small spinney close by; the fox went into Prior's Coppice with the hounds at his brush, then headed short back, and they ran hard to Launde Wood, and after running him for above an hour in Launde Park Wood, killed him. Did not find again.

“Tom of Lincoln.”

“Rowton.”

Monday, Dec. 22nd.

Belvoir——*Croxton Park*.

Went to Coston Covert, where the hounds began by chopping a fox, and another was viewed outside trying to come into the covert. Found another, and went away by Coston village and Garthorpe, and leaving Saxby on the right, went down to Stapleford Park; he did not go into the park, but turned back round Saxby village, pointing for Freeby Wood, when he bore to the right, and they ran him up to Sproxton Thorns, away again with, I believe, the same fox, and ran him another ring, and back to Coston Covert, where I believe they changed, and ran up to Woodwell Head; after hanging there sometime, they came away again, and ran by Market Overton, leaving Teigh on the right, pointing for Ashwell, when the hounds were stopped. A good day's sport: the best I have seen this year; the first 30 minutes down to Stapleford Park very good.

“The Merry Shepherd.”

“Leila.”

Tuesday, Dec. 23rd.

Quorn—*Thrussington*.

Found at Cream Lodge Gorse, and hunted slowly by Gadesby to near South Croxton, where we lost him. Found at Ashby Pasture, but could not run him a yard: a wretched day's sport. Went to Deene afterwards.

"Merry Andrew."

"The Engineer."

Friday, Dec. 26th.

Quorn—*Holt*.

Drew Holt Wood blank. Found at Easton Park, and ran slowly up nearly to Vow's Gorse, where he turned back to the right by Easton Park to Drayton Wood. The hounds could do nothing.

"Leila."

"Tom of Lincoln."

Saturday, Dec. 27th.

Cottesmore—*Somerby*.

A sharp frost, and hunting almost impracticable; the hounds went to Owston Wood, when after running some time in covert, they killed a fox.

Monday, Dec. 29th.

Quorn—*Lowesby*.

Went to Barkby Holt, where they chopped a fox. Went away with another, who ran to ground in a drain three or four fields from the covert; they got him out and put him in a bag. Found at Scraftoft, in the spinney, and, after running prettily for six or eight minutes, lost their fox most unaccountably. Found the bagman in Hungerton Spinney; ran him a few minutes, and lost him at Quenby. Drew the Coplow and Botany Bay blank. A most wretched day's sport. The Belvoir hounds hunted at Melton Spinney, and had two good runs.

"The Merry Shepherd."

"The Engineer."

Tuesday, Dec. 30th.

Quorn——Ratcliffe.

Drew Cossington Gorse blank, and Walton Thorns blank. Drew Mundy's Gorse blank; but after the hounds were taken away, a fox was viewed at the gorse—the hounds were taken back, and chopped (!) him in the covert. Found at Ella's Gorse. Ran a ring round by Willoughby up to Thrussington Wolds, to Shoby Scholes, near which the hounds divided, and I and most of the field lost them. They ran by Welby Pond, and lost their fox near Kettleby. Jack,* and more than half the hounds, followed another fox, and stopped them near Ashfordby.

“Merry Andrew.”

“Rowton.”

Wednesday, Dec. 31st.

Belvoir——Three Queens.

Drew Herring's Gorse blank. Found at Sproxton Heath Gorse, and, after a bursting run by Hungerton and Denton, killed him in Harlaxton village; 1 hour and 3 minutes; the hounds behaved beautifully, and at times ran very fast. Found again at the School Plats; ran by Little Ponton, where the hounds got close to him and ran him almost in view, and killed him just over the railway. A good day's sport, but the foxes not good.

“The Engineer.”

“Tom of Lincoln.”

Saturday, Jan. 3rd.

Cottesmore——Knossington.

Greaves† sent no word that he should come first to Burton Gorse; and he sent the hounds straight there from the kennels, which not unnaturally angered the gentlemen from Leicester, of whom there were a large number out. We found at the Burton Covert, and he went away towards Kirby; but he was

* Jack Morgan, afterwards huntsman to Lord Galway.

† Mr. Henley Greaves, Master of the *Cottesmore* Hounds.

headed in the third field, turned back, and they lost him. Old Mr. Hartopp, of Harby, having died yesterday, we did not draw the Dalby Coverts, but went to Ranksborough, where we found two, if not three, foxes; ran one by Langham village towards Ashwell, and lost him. Drew Overton Park Wood blank.

“The Merry Shepherd.”

“Leila.”

Monday the frost was so hard that the *Belvoir* hounds did not hunt at Piper Hole. The *Quorn* hunted at Lowesby, and drew John o’ Gaunt, Thorpe Trussels, Ashby Pasture, and Cream Gorse. A day not fit to hunt.

Tuesday, Jan. 6th.

Cottesmore—Tilton Wood.

Drew Tilton, Skeffington, and Tugby Woods blank, and the hounds were just leaving Loddington Redish, when they found a fox; they went away at the bottom of the wood, through Tugby Wood, through Skeffington and Tilton Woods, by Lord Berners’ new stone quarry plantation, left Launde Great Wood on the right, over Robin-a-Tiptoe into Launde Abbey Wood; here was a check and a long delay, after which the fox was viewed going into the Great Wood; they hit him off, ran him through the wood, into the Abbey Wood again, and away pointing for Woodbarrow, turned to the right by Witheote, left Owston Little Wood on the left hand, up to Knossington village, then bore to the right for Overton Park Wood, which he left just on the right; then bore to the left for Ranksborough, went under the Hill, along the bottom of the gorse, and away again almost to Whissendine village, where I thought he would have saved himself by going to Lord Harborough, but he turned to the right, and, after dodging about for a few fields, they killed him close to the railway station at Ashwell: 2 hours altogether from

the first; the first 30 minutes up to Launde a capital pace, and the whole very good; the point was 10 miles, and altogether a fine fox-hunting run.

“Tom of Lincoln.”

“Rowton.”

Wednesday, Jan. 7th.

Belvoir—Croxton Park.

Found at Coston Covert, a bad fox who ran up to Buckminster and back again to Coston; after running for a long time in the covert, they came away and ran merrily up to Buckminster, and after running two fields in view, killed him in the village. Drew Sproxton Thorns, found, and went away by Sproxton village, and a storm of wind and hail came on, and we lost him: a stormy, bad day, with very little scent.

“Leila.”

“The Merry Shepherd.”

Thursday, Jan. 8th.

Belvoir—Piper Hole (Bye-day).

Drew the plantation at Old Scalford Gorse blank. Found at the Old Hills, and lost our fox near Clawson Thorns. Drew Holwell Mouth blank. Went to Clawson Thorns, where they chopped one fox, and went away with another down to Long Clawson, and back again to Holwell Mouth, through the covert and back to Clawson Thorns, where he went to ground in a rabbit hole. Found at Piper Hole, and ran up to the Belvoir plantations, where I left them. A bad, windy day.

“Merry Andrew.”

Friday, Jan. 9th.

The *Quorn* hounds met at Kirby Gate, and having drawn all the Cream Lodge country on Monday from Lowesby, they went to Goodricke's Gorse, which they drew blank; Brudenell's Gorse ditto; and there being a little snow on the ground, Sir Richard went home.

Saturday, Jan. 10th.

More snow fell, and it froze hard.

Monday, Jan. 12th.

Belvoir—Croxton Park.

Found at Bescaby Oaks; ran over the park to Croxton Lings, and away to Braunston, where they lost their fox. Drew the Lings again (unfortunately), found a horrid bad fox, who never went further than Lawn Hollow and back again; and after they had been running $2\frac{1}{2}$ hours in the gorse, I left them. The *Quorn* met at Great Dalby, and had a good run in the afternoon from Cream Lodge, killing their fox at Burton Lazars.

“Tom of Lincoln.”

“The Engineer.”

Tuesday, Jan. 13th.

Cottesmore—Ridlington.

Found at Wardley Wood three or four foxes, came away with one towards Lye Lodge, but at first we had only four or five hounds; when the body came up, they ran prettily to Launde Wood, and after running some time in the covert, killed in Launde Big Wood. Found at Owston Wood a good fox, but rain came on, and the scent appeared much less good than in the morning; we came away pointing for Launde Wood, turned to the right, leaving Robin-a-Tiptoe on the left, and hunted at a moderate pace by Marefield to John o' Gaunt, and on to Lowesby, where they gave him up.

“The Merry Shepherd.”

“Leila.”

Wednesday, Jan. 14th.

Belvoir—Belvoir.

A Barkeston Wood day, without a good scent; ran a fox to ground near Stathern Point, when I came home.

“Merry Andrew.”

The fox was got out, and died; and they killed another fox in the Belvoir Woods.

Thursday, Jan. 15th.

Quorn—Holt.

Found at Easton Park, and ran through Marilebone Hole to Stoke End: a stormy day, and we did no good.

“The Engineer.”

Friday, Jan. 16th.

Quorn—Wymeswold.

Drew Willoughby's and Ella's Gorses blank. Found at the Curate's Gorse, and lost one fox in two or three fields, but they got a halloo near Hickling village, came down to it, and killed a wounded fox in the middle of a grass field; it afterwards transpired that some miscreant had shot the fox just before the hounds came down to the place. Went to Wynnstay Gorse, where we found, and ran prettily to Hickling village, where there was a long check; they hit it off again, and hunted him over the covert to near Langar, where they lost him.

“Tom of Lincoln.”

“Leila.”

Saturday, Jan. 17th.

Cottesmore—Knossington.

Found at Owston Wood, came away up the Dingle pointing for Launde, left Launde Abbey just on the right, turned to the left through Lady Wood up to Overton Park Wood, which he skirted, leaving it on his left, then pointed for Langham, but turned to the left for Ranksborough, left the gorse on the right, and up to Cold Overton, where they were close at him, and would probably have killed him, but for a long check in the village; they afterwards hit him off towards Knossington, but could make nothing of it, and gave it up: a very pretty run, and hounds and huntsmen deserved to kill their fox. Went to Ranksborough, where we found, and went away towards Langham, leaving it just on the right;

then pointing for Whissendine bore to the right, leaving Ashwell on the right, across the railroad pointing for Woodwell Head, then bore to the right, leaving Market Overton on the left, to Cottessmore, where I left them hunting slowly to Exton Park: the first part up to Ashwell was very pretty, and altogether a capital day's sport.

"The Merry Shepherd."

"Rowton."

Monday, Jan. 19th.

Lady Newport and I went to London. I came down on Thursday evening.

Friday, Jan. 23rd.

Quorn—Ratcliffe.

Drew Cossington Gorse, Thrussington Wolds, Mundy's Gorse and Walton Thorns all blank. Found near the house at Burton, went away towards Prestwold, but turned to the left and ran by Walton Thorns, leaving Six Hills on the right, pointing for Willoughby, then turned to the left and ran up to Wymeswold: 45 minutes, very good pace; at Wymeswold the hounds divided, and they ran back to Walton Thorns, and up to Six Hills, where they lost him.

"The Merry Shepherd."

* B. Seymour: "Leila."

Saturday, Jan. 24th.

Cottessmore—Burton Lazars.

Drew Burton Gorse blank. Found at the Punch-bowl; and in the afternoon at Owston Wood. A stormy day of wind and rain and little sport. I went to London after hunting.

"The Engineer."

"Rowton."

* Admiral Sir Beauchamp Seymour.

Monday, Feb. 2nd.

I sold "The Merry Shepherd" (250) to Col. Pennant; and on the 3rd I bought a grey horse (75) of Denham.

Thursday, Feb. 5th.

Quorn—Gaddesby.

Found at Cream Lodge, two foxes, but lost them almost immediately. Drew Thorpe Trussels blank. Drew Burdett's Covert, found, and killed a fox close to the covert, probably the Cream Lodge fox. Drew Gartree Hill blank, when most of the Meltonians went home. We found at John o' Gaunt, and had a very good gallop of 50 minutes—35 minutes very good; a ring and back to John o' Gaunt, when I left them, having to go to London.

"Merry Andrew."

"Tom of Lincoln."

Tuesday, March 2nd.

Cottesmore—Ridlington,

Found at Stoke End, and ran very fast by Easton Park, Marlebone Hole, up to Holt, and lost our fox near the Welland. Found at Wardley Wood, and ran up to Launde, and to Owston Wood, when I left them, having to ride to Langton. A *very* hard day for hounds, horses and men.

"Tom of Lincoln."

"Grey Horse."

I intended to hunt on Wednesday at North Kilworth, and on Thursday at Keythorpe, but the ground was so hard, and the frost so sharp, that I went up to London instead, and on Friday kissed hands as Vice-Chamberlain; from that day to this (April 16th) the wind has been north and east almost without intermission, and hardly a drop of rain has fallen for ten or twelve weeks.

1852—3.



Monday, Nov. 1st.

Quorn—Kirby Gate.

Found at Gartree Hill, went away pointing for Melton, up to Burton Gorse, through Burton village pointing for Stapleford, turned to the left, and went a ring back to Gartree Hill, up to Little Dalby, where two foxes were viewed; back to Gartree Hill, where a fox went away, and they lost him near Melton.

“The Engineer.”

“Grey Horse.”

* Arthur Wrottesley: “Tom of Lincoln.”

Tuesday, Nov. 2nd.

Cottesmore—Market Overton.

First day with the new Master, Mr. Burroughes, and though a good day for hounds, an unlucky one for sport: the hounds were put into Woodwell Head, where there were four or five or more foxes, and they were running in the covert all day, but could not get hold of a fox. I left them at half-past four o'clock about to give it up.

“Merry Andrew.”

Arthur Wrottesley: “Rowton.”

Monday, Nov. 30th.

Quorn—Kirby Gate.

Found at Gartree Hill, ran round by Little Dalby and Burrow Hill, and lost our fox. Found at Thorpe Trussels, ran a ring round by Ashby Pasture, came back skirting the

* Lord Wrottesley.

corner of the covert, skirted the corner of Thorpe Trussels, went away pointing for Gartree Hill, turned to the right over Burrow Hill by Pickwell, left Somerby on the right and ran to Owston Wood, where a fresh fox was immediately on foot, and it being nearly dark Sir Richard stopped the hounds: a very good run over a grand country—time, including the ring round Ashby Pasture at starting, $1\frac{1}{4}$ hour.

“Merry Andrew.”

Tuesday, Dec. 1st.

Quorn—Wartnaby Stone Pits.

Found at Grimston Gorse, ran a ringing bad fox to ground below the Stone Pits, got him out and eat him.

“The Engineer.”

“Grey Horse.”

Wednesday, Dec. 22nd.

Belvoir—Piper Hole.

Found at Clawson Thorns, ran up to the Old Hills, turned to the right, pointing for Sysonby, bore to the right across the Nottingham road, by Kettleby and Wartnaby Stone Pits, and ran to ground in a drain at Broughton. Found at Holwell Mouth, and ran a bad short-running fox to ground near Scalford, dug him out.

“The Engineer.”

“Tom of Lincoln.”

Thursday, Dec. 23rd.

Cottesmore—Market Overton (Bye-day).

Drew Woodwell Head, where a fox went away without being seen. Drew Barrow Gorse and Cottesmore Gorse blank. Found at Ranksborough; he slipped away directly, up to Cold Overton, turned to right up to Pickwell, crossed the road, pointing for Stapleford, then bore to the right, left Whissendine village on the right, towards Ashwell; bore to

the right again by Langham to Ranksborough, and away again to Cold Overton, near which I left them still running: the first 45 minutes was very good indeed.

“Rowton.”

Friday, Dec. 24th.

Cottesmore—Langham.

Drew Overton Park, Little Dalby, and Burton Gorse, all blank, and I went home, having to go to Deene. They afterwards killed a fox in Owston Wood.

“Tom of Lincoln.”

“Merry Andrew.”

Tuesday, Dec. 28th.

Cottesmore—Tilton Wood.

Found three or four foxes in Tilton Wood, came away with one to Owston Wood, back again to Tilton: apparently a bad scent, and hounds could only run a field at a time.

“Tom of Lincoln.”

“Merry Andrew.”

Saturday, Jan. 1st, 1853.

Cottesmore—Owston Wood.

Found at Owston Little Wood, though this was the fifth time the hounds had been in the wood this week, went away up to Knossington village, where I caught them, and then hunted slowly to Cold Overton, near where they lost him. Found at Ranksborough, went away leaving Langham on the right for Whissendine, pointing for Woodwell Head, crossed the railway to Barrow Gorse on to Cottesmore Gorse, but did not go in. Up to this point it was 35 minutes, and very good; they had a long check near Cottesmore Gorse, and hunted slowly back by Ashwell towards Langham, when we lost him.

“The Engineer.”

“Tom of Lincoln.”

“Grey Horse.”

Monday, Jan. 3rd.

Quorn—Houghton-on-the-Hill.

Found at Norton Gorse, went away leaving Norton village on the right, and Rolleston, pointing for the Coplow, turned to the left, and ran up to Houghton village, and back to Norton Gorse, very fast, about 35 minutes; came through the gorse, and away again (with a fresh fox) to Shankton Holt, up to which it was 1 hour and 5 minutes, very good; came through the Holt, and away slowly by the Hardwickses to Noseley, and on to Rolleston, through the gorse, and hunted slowly up to Keythorpe, where they lost him, and I came home. The first ring of 35 minutes was capital; I got a fall at a double near Houghton.

"Merry Andrew."

Wednesday, Jan. 5th.

Belvoir—Croxtan Park.

Found at Sproxton Thorns, went away for Sproxton village, when he turned short back to the left, almost to Stonesby, pointing for Bescaby Oaks, bore to the right by Saltby village to Herring's Gorse, where they ran in the covert for a short time, came away pointing for Hungerton, turned to the left by the Three Queens, and killed him at Denton: altogether 1 hour and 30 minutes, 20 minutes of which from Sproxton up to Herring's Gorse was very fast.

"Tom of Lincoln."

"Rowton."

* H. Corry: "Leila."

Thursday, Jan. 6th.

Quorn—Keythorpe.

Drew Keythorpe Wood, the spinneys about the house, and the Ram's Head, all blank, when a tremendous storm of wind and rain came on, and we all went home, well ducked.

"The Engineer."

"Grey Horse."

* The Right Hon. Henry L. Corry.

Monday, Jan. 17th.

Quorn——Baggrave.

Drew over a fox in the Baggrave Spinneys. Drew Thorpe Trussels blank. Found at Ashby Pastures, and went away pointing for Kirby, turned to right pointing to Burton; then bore to the right, by the corner of Gartree Hill, after which they mended their pace and ran very fast, pointing for Stapleford; bore to the right, by Old Bury Gorse and as if for the railway, turned again to the right by Whissendine village, pointing for Langham, up to Ranksborough, skirted the corner of the gorse, up to which it was 1 hour and 5 minutes, the last part very fast; and ran through the spinneys under Cold Overton, up to the village, where he was viewed in Mr. Frewen's garden, close to the hounds; he got away again, and ran back to Ranksborough, and to ground in the earths there: altogether 1 hour and 30 minutes, and a very good run.

“Tom of Lincoln.”

“Rowton.”

Tuesday, Jan. 18th.

Cottesmore——Launde Abbey.

Found in Launde Park Wood, came away pointing for Owston Little Wood, turned to the left with his head towards Owston village; to the left again, through Launde Great Wood, over Robin-a-Tiptoe, by the end of Skeffington Wood, and Tilton Wood, where they checked; hit it off to the right, and ran up to Tilton village, where they checked again, then turned to the right, and ran by John o' Gaunt, leaving Marefield on the right, and we lost him near Twyford: three quarters of an hour up to Marefield, most of it first-rate pace. Drew Little Dalby, and Burton Gorse blank.

“The Engineer.”

“Leila.”

Wednesday, Jan. 19th.

Belvoir——Belvoir Plantations.

Found at Barkeston Wood, and ran about Barkeston Wood, and the plantations all day.

“Rowton.”

Friday, Jan. 21st.

Quorn——Thrussington.

Drew the Brooksby Spinneys. Found at Cream Lodge, and ran very prettily up to Burton Lazars : about 25 minutes ; and to ground in the earths there. Went to Goodricke's Gorse, found, and went away at his brush as hard as we could split, by Welby, and up to Grimston village, by Wartnaby up to Little Belvoir, where there was a long check ; hit him off again, back by the Wartnaby Plantation, and by Kittleby to the Old Hills, left the covert on the right, and went on slow hunting by Landyke Lane to Piper Hole Gorse ; turned to the right, leaving Goadby to the left, and Scalford to the left, back by Landyke Lane, and they lost him near Holwell village, after a long and very hard run of at least 2 hours.

“Merry Andrew.”

Saturday, Jan. 22nd.

Cottesmore——Owston Wood.

Found in the Little Wood, but lost our fox near Woodbarrow Hill. Found at Overton Park Wood, went away at his brush, leaving Lady Wood on the left, nearly to Barleythorpe, when he turned short to the right, pointing for Oakham Pasture, when we suddenly lost him, owing in my opinion to the hounds having taken it heel-way, at a check in the road. Found again at Ranksborough, and ran round about after a short running fox, but the scent appeared to have changed for the worse, and we did no good.

“Tom of Lincoln.”

“Leila.”

Lady Newport : “Grey Horse.”

Monday, Jan. 24th.

Belvoir—Croxton Park.

Found at Coston Covert, came away towards Sproxton Thorns, ran a ring round the covert, and went away leaving Coston village on the left, by Garthorpe, nearly to Stapleford, turned to the left, and left Wymondham just on the left, and Edmonthorpe on the left; crossed the railway, pointing for Whissendine, and lost our fox close to Langham: we never could, apparently, get on good terms with him, and ran slow over a fine line. I met with an accident which *promised* to be of a most serious character, but providentially attended with no bad results: in a bit of a scramble getting my hind legs out of the Whissendine Brook, I got my foot through the stirrup leather, and was hung over the saddle with one foot on the ground and one on the top of the saddle, and with no power to extricate myself; fortunately assistance was at hand, and I was rescued from a very awkward predicament: had I not been riding the best tempered horse in the world, I must have had my leg broke, and probably something worse.

“The Engineer.”

“Leila.”

Tuesday, Jan. 25th.

Quorn—Old Dalby Wood.

Found at Grimston Gorse, ran a ring round the covert, and then away pointing for Saxelby; left Welby Pond on the left, turned to the right towards Ashfordby, crossed the river near Kirby, and killed him within a field of Cream Lodge Gorse: a very good 40 minutes. Lady Newport was out, and I came home with her. They found another fox at Cream Lodge, and killed him at Gaddesby.

“Merry Andrew.”

* J. Macdonald: “Rowton.”

* General the Hon. James Macdonald.

Saturday, Jan. 29th.

Cottesmore—Thisleton.

Found at Gunby Gorse, ran two or three rings, and away to Easton Park (Sir M. Cholmely's), where they ran to ground. I was rather seedy, and came home early.

"Tom of Lincoln."

"Leila."

Went to Burghley on Saturday. Shot on Monday—pheasants, 102; hares, 476; rabbits, 46; partridges, 37; woodcock, 1; total, 662. And on Tuesday—pheasants, 66; hares, 78; rabbits, 42; woodcocks, 9; total, 195.

Thursday, Feb. 3rd.

Quorn—Great Dalby.

Georgy's* eighth birthday, who went out hunting for the first time, on "Cocky," and liked it very much. Found at Gartree Hill, and killed their fox somewhere near Ashby Pasture, and drowned another one in the river near Ashfordby. I was obliged to come home, being still seedy, I fancy from some sort of strain in the region of the *trail*. The Duchess of Cambridge and Princess Mary were out to-day, and the *cortège* of pony carriages from Melton reached half-way from Dalby to Gartree Hill.

"The Engineer."

"Leila."

On Tuesday, Feb. 8th, hunting was stopped by the snow; Wednesday and Thursday there was hunting; and on Thursday afternoon more snow fell, after which it froze; and there was no hunting on Friday, 11th. On Sunday night, the 13th, the thermometer was 13°; on Monday night 14°, and snow continued to fall and to lie. Wednesday night, the 16th, thermometer 25°; February 19th, thermometer 15°; 20th,

* Viscount Newport.

16°. Went to Badminton, and hunted on the 25th and 26th; ground hard and slippery. Came back to Melton, March 6th. The *Cottesmore* hounds hunted on the 5th, and the *Belvoir* on the 4th, which, I believe, was the first day of hunting in Leicestershire since the frost.

Monday, March 7th.

Belvoir—Elton.

Found a fox at Elton, and killed him in the second field. Found again, and ran up to Barkeston Wood, and killed him under Belvoir. Found at Granby Gap, and ran very fast to Colston Basset; the hounds checked in a covert there, and I left them. A goodish day's sport.

“Tom of Lincoln.”

“Rowton.”

Tuesday, March 8th.

Cottesmore—Tilton Wood.

Found directly in Tilton Wood. Came away to Colborrow, and over Woodbarrow Hill to Owston Wood; from there to Launde Park Wood, through Launde Great Wood; came away over Robin-a-Tiptoe, and back to Owston Wood, back again to Launde, then to Tilton Wood, and to ground in a gravel-pit near Skeffington Wood: 2½ hours. Left them digging, with very little chance of getting him out. A good day for hounds, who were a little short of work after the frost. Orbell* was out as an amateur, the first whip hunting the hounds.

“Merry Andrew.”

“Leila.”

Wednesday, March 9th.

Belvoir—Piper Hole.

Found at Melton Spinney. Went away along the bottom towards Scalford, crossed the road to the right, pointing for

* Formerly huntsman to the *Cottesmore* Hounds.

Waltham, then bore to the left, by Goadby Gorse and Eastwell, and killed their fox near Eaton. Found at Croxton Park, and killed in Lawn Hollow. Found again at Stonesby Gorse, and ran to ground near Bescaby Oaks. I staked my horse at the third or fourth fence from Melton Spinney, which put an end to my day's sport, and to the poor "Engineer's" sport for *this* season at all events.

"The Engineer."

Lady Newport and Lucy * rode "Vivian Grey" and "Leila."

Thursday, March 10th.

Quorn—Rolleston.

Found in the gorse, and lost him at Noseley. Found at Shankton Holt two or three foxes, and ran one to ground a few fields off. Went to Stanton Wood, where we found directly. Came away, leaving Glooston Wood on the right, to Keythorpe Wood; turned to the right by Hallaton Thorns, leaving Hallaton on the right, bore to the left towards Vow's Gorse, left it on the right, and down to East Norton, where there was a long check. They hunted it on slowly to Lodington Redish, where I left them.

"Rowton."

Friday, March 11th.

Quorn—Widmerpool Inn.

Found at the Curate's Gorse; and, after running for nearly an hour in the gorse, he went away pointing for Broughton, turned to the left by the Parson's Gorse, and we killed him in Kinoulton village; 25 minutes in the open. Found again at the Parson's Gorse, and ran a ring, going nearly over the same line as with the first fox, and stopped the hounds near Widmerpool village, it being a vixen. Went to Belvoir after hunting.

"Tom of Lincoln."

"Leila."

* Lady Lucy C. Bridgeman.

Saturday, March 12th.

Belvoir—Croxton Park.

Found at Coston Gorse. Went away, by Coston village, to Garthorpe; then bore to the right, through Freeby Wood, to Brentingby Spinney, across the turnpike-road, and to ground in a drain in one of Mr. Hunter's fields at Thorpe Arnold. Just as they were taking the hounds away, he bolted, and they coursed him up to the road, when he turned back to the left, over the brook, skirted Melton Spinney, up the bottom to Scalford town; then bore to the left, leaving Piper Hole on the right, to Clawson Thorns, leaving it on the left hand, through Holwell Mouth, up to Kettleby, and by Wartnaby Stone Pits; when he went down into the vale, and they killed him at Broughton village. A twelve-mile point; time, 2 hours and 50 minutes. A very fine hunting run.

“Merry Andrew.”

Monday, March 14th.

Belvoir—Piper Hole.

Found at Clawson Thorns, came away to Holwell Mouth, where there were two or three foxes on foot, and they ran one back to Clawson Thorns, but could not do anything with him. Went to the Old Hills and found there, came away by Kettleby and Wartnaby Stone Pits, and lost him in the vale. Found at Grimston Gorse, and ran to ground in the village: went back to the gorse and found some more foxes, and came away with one as far as Dalby Wood, when I came home. Apparently as bad a scenting day as ever was seen. Came back from Belvoir.

“Rowton.”

Thursday night the thermometer was at 25°, and Friday night 22°, with a good deal of snow on the ground, so I did not hunt.

Saturday, March 19th.

Belvoir—Croxtan Park.

Drew Granby Gap and Jericho blank, found at the Rectory covert, and ran by Bottesford and through Muston Gorse up to Belvoir.

“Tom of Lincoln.”

“Leila.”

Went on Monday to Shrewsbury to the assizes. Hunting has been partially stopped all the week by the frost and snow; they could not hunt at Owston Wood on Tuesday, but the *Belvoir* hunted in the vale at Hose, and had a good run in the afternoon from Melton Spinney.

Thursday, March 24th.

Belvoir—Piper Hole.

Found at Harby covert, and ran a ring of about 40 minutes, and lost our fox at Colston Basset. Lucy rode “Vivian Grey.”

“Merry Andrew.”

“Leila.”

Good Friday, thermometer down to 22°. Saturday, thermometer 20°.

Saturday, March 26th.

Quorn—Six Hills.

Found at Walton Gorse, ran by Mundy's or Ella's Gorse and Wysall, and lost our fox near Wymeswold. Found at Grimston (Brudenell's Gorse), came away by Old Dalby Wood to Old Dalby, hit him off again back through Old Dalby Wood to Brudenell's Gorse, came away at the bottom end and ran very prettily up to Saxelby village, to the left

by Welby Pond, up to Wartnaby, and to the right by Kettleby, and lost him between Holwell Mouth and the Old Hills.

“Rowton.”

“Tom of Lincoln.”

Easter Monday, March 28th.

Quorn——*Blaston*.

Found in Holt Plantation, ran to Easton Park, for some time about the wood, when he went away and went to ground in a drain near Holt, got him out and killed him. Drew Fallow Closes blank. Found at Glooston Wood, gave him one turn round the covert, and got away on good terms, ran up to Stanton Wood, leaving Keythorpe Wood on the right, to the Hardwickses, through Noseley to Rolleston, through the gorse and away for the Coplow, leaving Billesdon town on the right, and to ground near Houghton-on-the-Hill: a good fox and a grand line of country, but they could not run any pace. I went to Catmos on Sunday afternoon, and returned to Melton on Tuesday.

“Merry Andrew.”

“Leila.”

Tuesday, March 29th.

Cottesmore——*Launde Abbey*.

Found in Launde Park Wood, came away through the Great Wood, over Robin-a-Tiptoe and Woodbarrow Hill to Owston Wood, ran through the corner of the wood, turned to the right by Witcote back to Launde Park Wood, away at the top, pointing for Allextan, bore to the right by Loddington, through the Redish and Tugby Wood, through Tilton Wood, and ran to ground. Found again at Tilton Wood, and came away pointing for Tilton, but he went to ground in Three Fields. Drew Launde Great Wood, but did not find.

“Tom of Lincoln.”

“Vivian Grey.”

Thursday, March 31st.

Quorn—Rolleston.

Drew Rolleston Spinneys and the Hardwickes blank. Found at Shankton Holt, and after a long time got a fox away and ran up to Stanton Wood, where the fox apparently lay down, and the scent was so bad they could not get him up again. Went to Keythorpe Wood, found there, and came away by Hallaton Bottoms up to Glooston Wood; then to Stanton Wood, and back towards Shankton Holt and lost him. A very bad scenting day.

“Rowton.”

Friday, April 1st.

Quorn—Six Hills.

Found at Thrussington Wolds, and came away by Ragdale to Shoby Scholes, where two more foxes jumped out of the gorse, ran up to Lord Aylesford's covert, when one fox headed back and went back to Shoby Scholes, and was killed in the plantations—unfortunately a vixen, heavy in cub. Found at Brudenell's Gorse, a vixen was in the gorse and two dog-foxes went away, but old Day would not follow either of them—I can't conceive why. Went to Holwell Mouth but did not find, though we probably drew over one or two foxes. Went to Goodricke's Gorse, where we killed another vixen, and came away with a dog-fox over a fine line towards Ashfordby; bore to the right by Saxelby village up to Grimston, where we lost him: a blowing, stormy day, and very bad scent.

“Merry Andrew.”

Saturday, April 2nd.

Cottesmore—Owston Wood.

Found in Owston Little Wood, and, after running in the wood some time, went away and ran very prettily through Lady Wood to Overton Park, where we lost him. Found again in Owston Great Wood, and ran about the wood for two or three hours, when I came home.

“Tom of Lincoln.”

“Leila.”

Monday, April 4th.

Belvoir—Croxtan Park.

Found at Melton Spinney, came away down the brook side for Melton, turned to the left, crossed the other brook, left Brentingby Spinney just on the left, straight to Saxby, over the railroad, through a plantation of Lord Harborough's, pointed for Burton, then bore to the left by Little Dalby and the Punch-bowl, and to ground on the top of Burrow Hill. Drew Burton Gorse (by permission of Borrowes) blank. Found at Brentingby Spinney, but the hounds were not laid on. Found at Goadby Gorse, and, after a very merry 25 minutes, killed our fox, a short running one, in Mr. Gillett's plantation at Waltham.

"Merry Andrew."

"Rowton."

Tuesday and Wednesday were Croxtan Park races.

Thursday, April 7th.

Belvoir—Belvoir Stables.

Went to Granby Gap, found, and lost our fox near Elton. Found again at the Rectory covert, but soon lost our fox; found another at Muston Gorse, and ran him to ground at Wodthorpe. Found another fox at Harlaxton, and killed him in Harlaxton Wood. A blowing, stormy day.

"Rowton."

"Leila."

Friday, April 8th.

Belvoir—Barkeston, near Syston.

Found at Marston covert, lost our fox near a plantation of Lord Brownlow's; found again and killed in the plantation, probably our original fox. Found at Hough covert, and ran a very nice ring round by Stubton and Carlton, and back to the covert, but I don't know the country well enough to describe it: about 40 minutes.

"Rowton."

Saturday, April 9th.

Quorn—Kirby Gate.

This was a bye-day, and a very brilliant end to the season with the *Quorn* hounds; we drew Cream Gorse, but, finding a vixen fox heavy in cub, the hounds were taken away. Drew Ashby Pasture blank. Found at Thorpe Trussels, came away, and ran as fast and straight as an arrow to Burrow Hill, on the top of which he was headed, and we lost him at Little Dalby: decidedly the best and fastest thing I have seen this year—16 minutes to the first check, *quite first-rate*; about seven with the hounds. Dick Lloyd,* Cardigan, Banks Wright, Granby, and one or two more. Drew Gartree Hill blank. Found in the afternoon at John o' Gaunt, went away for Tilton town, leaving it on the right, bore to the left for Launde, turned to the right, through Skeffington Wood and Tilton Wood, away to Launde, through the Great Wood, and ran to ground under the riding in Launde Park Wood: a good hunting run of 1 hour. After about a quarter of an hour we bolted him, ran a turn round the wood, and away at the top corner towards Prior's Coppice; and after a very pretty 20 minutes, he went to ground in a drain, in view of the hounds, two fields from Prior's Coppice: altogether, I think, the *best day's sport* I have seen this season.

"Merry Andrew."

"Vivian Grey."

Wednesday, April 13th.

Belvoir—Stathern Point.

Found at Clawson Thorns, went away through Holwell Mouth, by Little Belvoir, towards Wartnaby; turned back by Kettleby to the Old Hills, and lost our fox. Found again at Holwell Mouth, ran through Clawson Thorns, by Piper Hole, leaving Goadby on the left, and Scalford on the

* Colonel Lloyd, of Aston.
The Earl of Cardigan.
Rev. Banks Wright.
Marquess of Granby.

left, to Melton Spinney; came away again for Thorpe Arnold (the old Burrow Hill fox for the third time), pointed for Saxby, crossed the railroad at Brentingby, after which they could not make much of it, and lost him near Burton Lazars.

“Tom of Lincoln.”

“Leila.”

Friday, April 15th.

Belvoir—Stathern Point.

Found at Piper Hole Gorse, and ran as hard as we could go up to the Belvoir Plantations, where we remained the greater part of the day; in the evening, with 11½ couples of hounds—all that could be collected—we drew Croxton Banks and Hallam’s Wood blank, and found in the gorse near Denton Park, but could not do anything, and soon lost our fox.

“Rowton.”

Saturday, April 16th.

Cottesmore—Owston Wood.

Found several foxes, but too good for the pack of hounds out to-day. Went to Launde Great Wood, found and came back to Owston Wood; went away from Owston Little Wood towards Lady Wood; went back to Launde, and found in the Park Wood, ran back to Owston Wood, through it, and away through Tampion’s Wood to Prior’s Coppice, when he was headed and turned back to Launde, and they gave it up.

“Merry Andrew.”

Monday, April 18th.

Belvoir—Belvoir Stables.

Found in Blackberry Hill—a bad scent; came away towards Branston, and back again to the plantations; ran a fox to ground, dug her out, and it proved to be a vixen, suckling. The hounds killed three cubs in Barkeston Wood, who had just come above ground, and were playing among the bushes. Cruelty to animals!!

“Rowton.”

On April 12th I bought a horse by “Irish Birdcatcher,” five years old, of Mr. Odger, of Tugby, and sold him at Tattersall’s in the summer.

1853—54.*



Came to Melton on Monday, November 7th.

Tuesday, Nov. 8th.

Cottesmore—Tilton Village.

Drew John o' Gaunt blank. Found at Tilton Wood, came away over Colborough Hill, and into Loddington Redish, where the hounds divided, and we were some time before we could get them together again; they got on a fox and ran him through Launde Great Wood, and down to Loddington village, near which we joined the *Quorn* hounds (Dick Sutton's †); we then drew Launde Great Wood again, and Launde Park Wood blank. Found in Brown's Coppice and went away directly, through Lady Wood, and, leaving Overton Park Wood on the right, ran to ground in a drain.

"Merry Andrew."

New Horse.

Was not very well this week, and did not hunt till—

Saturday, Nov. 12th.

Cottesmore—Little Dalby.

Found at the Punch-bowl: the fox came away through the plantation pointing for Leesthorpe, but was headed, and

* "Tom of Lincoln."

"The Engineer."

"Merry Andrew."

"Rowton."

Brown Horse, bought of Tomblin, sold to Hunter.

Bay Horse, by "Harkaway," bought of Hunter, seven years old.

† Mr. Richard Sutton, of Skeffington.

after running about the Dalby Plantations, went to ground near the house, was dug out and killed. Found at Ranksborough, and came away with a fox towards Cold Overton, but there were two foxes, and they did no good; went back to the gorse and found another, and hunted him slowly to Whissendine village, where we lost him.

“Tom of Lincoln.”

“The Engineer.”

The new Horse.

The thermometer was 30° on the 10th; 30° on the 11th; and 28° on the 12th.

Monday, Nov. 14th.

Quorn—Skeffington; Ilston-on-the-Hill.

Drew Norton Spinneys and Norton Gorse blank; Rolleston blank. Found at Shankton Holt, and ran backwards and forwards to Noseley and Rolleston till three o'clock, when I left them, and went to town.

This year Dick Sutton has a pack of hounds at Skeffington, and is to hunt that part of the *Quorn* country which is south of the Leicester and Uppingham road, two days a week.

“Merry Andrew.”

“Rowton.”

Bought a bay horse of Hunter, and sold him the brown horse.

Saturday, Nov. 19th.

Hunted with Watkin* at Baschurch Station; found at Boreatton, and ran up to Nesscliff, and back again to Boreatton, where I left them, having to go by the train.

I rode H. Lyster's “Westbury.”

Came back to Melton on the 21st. The thermometer had been down at 23° while I was away—probably on the 17th.

* Sir W. W. Wynn.

Tuesday, Nov. 22nd.

A sharp frost; thermometer 19°. Hounds met at Six Hills at about two o'clock; found a fox in the Walton Gorse, and ran towards Six Hills, bore to the right, leaving Thrusington Wold on his left, pointed for Hoby village, turned to the right, and they lost him near Cossington.

I rode my black pony, and saw the first part very well.

Wednesday, Nov. 23rd.

Hard frost; no hunting. Thermometer 23°.

Thursday, a change, and a fall of rain and snow—ground too hard to hunt.

Friday, Nov. 25th.

Too much snow to hunt.

Saturday, Nov. 26th.

Cottesmore—Brooke Hall.

Drew Oakham Pasture, Prior's Coppice, Brown's Coppice, and Lady Wood blank. Found at Overton Park Wood, came away a few fields towards Launde, when he turned back, ran through Lady Wood, to Prior's Coppice, and came away very prettily to Launde, through the Park Wood, the Little Wood, into the Great Wood, where there were two or three scents, and they did nothing more: a very pretty day's sport, but scent not apparently good enough to run hard.

"Tom of Lincoln."

"The Engineer."

Monday, Nov. 28th.

Belvoir—Piper Hole.

Found at the Old Hills, four foxes; came away with one towards the Nottingham Road, where he was headed, and turned back one field, then turned to the left again, made his point good; crossed the turnpike road, leaving Kettleby on the right, by Cant's Thorns, leaving Saxelby on the left, by the corner of Lord Aylesford's covert, then bore to the right, and pointed for Willoughby, turned to the left, crossed the

Foss Road, skirted Ella's Gorse, leaving it just on the right, then bore to the left, across the other Foss Lane, ran along the bottom, and they ran him to ground (in view) in the main earths in Mundy's Gorse: just 1 hour,—I believe *without a check* the whole time. I and about seven or eight others were with them to Lord Aylesford's coverts—Blackwood,* Hildyard, Newcome, Welby, Gordon, Hardy, Brewster, Goodall, and George,† were, I believe, all—when the hounds beat us, and had it to themselves, till within a field of Ella's Gorse, when George the whip, Hardy and I caught them, and were with them to the end: the point is about 7 miles, and rather more to Ella's Gorse—one of the best runs I ever saw. Drew Brudenell's Gorse, found a very good fox, he went away through Old Dalby Wood, and we hunted him slowly to Broughton.

“Merry Andrew.”

“Harkaway Horse.”

Wednesday, Nov. 30th.

Belvoir—Three Queens.

Drew Tippin's Gorse blank. Found at Humberston's Gorse, came away through Tippin's Gorse, by Three Queens and across the Park at Denton, at a great pace, by the House, where there were two foxes, and there was a check of ten minutes, hit him off again across the road, crossed the canal near Casthorpe, across the railway, nearly to Allington, when he turned to the left, and they killed him in the open near Normanton: the point about $8\frac{1}{2}$ miles; 1 hour and 5 minutes—a very good run.

“Rowton.”

* Mr. Arthur Blackwood.

Mr. T. B. Hildyard, M.P.

Mr. John Welby.

Mr. George Gordon.

Mr. Hardy, of Grantham.

Mr. Brewster.

Rev. W. Newcome.

† William Goodall, and George Shepherd, huntsman and first whipper-in, to the *Belvoir* Hounds.

This was perhaps the best run I ever saw.

Friday, Dec. 2nd.

Quorn—Wartnaby Stone Pits.

Drew Holwell Mouth in a dense fog, found, and ran to Clawson Thorns, back to Holwell Mouth, and lost him near Wartnaby. Found again at Old Dalby Wood, ran through Grimston Gorse, but did nothing.

“Tom of Lincoln.”

“Harkaway Horse.”

Saturday, Dec. 3rd.

Belvoir—Croxtan Park.

Drew Melton Spinney, for the first time this year, found two or three foxes, came away with one towards Melton, turned to the left, up to Brentingby Spinney, thence to Freeby Wood, and Waltham Pasture, and back again to Brentingby; apparently a wretched scent, and could do nothing.

“Tom of Lincoln.”

“Engineer.”

The thermometer was down at 25° this morning.

Monday, Dec. 5th.

Belvoir—Hose Grange.

Found at Hose Gorse, went away by Long Clawson up to the Harby Hills, then to Clawson Thorns, and Holwell Mouth, through Piper Hole Gorse, and ran him to ground near Eastwell. Drew Goadby Gorse blank. Found at Croxtan Lings, and went away towards Branston, but the fog was very thick, and I left them.

“Merry Andrew.”

* Johnny: “The Engineer.”

Tuesday, Dec. 6th.

Cottesmore—Belton.

Found at Allextion Wood, ran up to Vow's Gorse, then made a wide ring round Horninghold village, and lost our fox. Found at Stoke End, ran through Stockerston Wood, to Wardley, then back to Stockerston, and Easton Park, when I left them, and went to Deene: an unsatisfactory day.

“Rowton.”

Thursday, Dec. 8th.

Quorn—Skeffington; Stanton Wyville.

Found at Stanton Wood; ran to Keythorpe Spinney, then back to Glooston Wood, and from there to Noseley and Rolleston, and lost him. Found again at Vow's Gorse, and ran towards Hallaton; but I left them, and came home to Melton.

“Tom of Lincoln.”

Friday, Dec. 9th.

Quorn—Kirby Gate.

Found at Gartree Hill two foxes. Came away with one by Little Dalby, leaving the Punch-bowl on the right, over Burrow Hill, by Burrow village, Newbold and Marefield, down to the brook, pointing for John o' Gaunt; when he turned to the right, went nearly to Baggrave, then to Lowesby, back to John o' Gaunt, and then to Lowesby, where we lost him. A beautiful line of country; but they never could get on good terms with their fox, or run any pace.

“The Engineer.”

“Harkaway Horse.”

Saturday, Dec. 10th.

Cottesmore—Little Dalby.

Found (a bagman!) in a spinney. Ran through the Punch-bowl, round about, then up to the Shrubbery, where they nearly caught him. He got away, however, and they ran fast to Gartree Hill, went away directly on the other side, and they ran very hard for about 10 minutes, and lost him near Old Bury Gorse. Went to Ranksborough, found, and went away towards Cold Overton; then turned to the right, and ran very prettily up to Leesthorpe; then turned to the right, crossed the Oakham Road, and lost him near Whissendine. They ran very fast for some 20 minutes or so. I went to Deene.

“Merry Andrew.”

Monday, Dec. 12th.

Quorn—Skeffington; Holt.

I came from Deene with De Burgh.* The hounds came, but Dick Sutton did not; and it was voted too hard for hounds, though the riding was good enough. Came home to Melton.

“Rowton.”

We went away on Tuesday to Pype Hayes; and on Friday, 16th, went to Brighton, to see my brother. Went on Tuesday, 20th, to Weston, and returned here on Wednesday evening. There was much snow south of Leicester and Rugby, but none at Weston up to this time. Hunting had been stopped in Leicestershire since I had been away, except in the vale of Belvoir. On Friday, the *Quorn* hounds were out at Enderby; and on Saturday, 24th, the *Cottesmore* hunted at Brooke Hall, but there was much snow on the ground. Snow and frost now continued, and on 27th I went out in the sledge; the snow, though very hard and frozen,

* Mr. Hubert De Burgh.

was hardly deep enough. The thermometer has been as follows :—

On the night of	Wednesday, and Thursday	29th	6°
„	„	Friday, 30th	24°
„	„	Saturday, 31st	20°
„	„	Sunday, January 1st, 1854	17°
„	„	Monday, 2nd	24°
„	„	Tuesday, * 3rd, zero	0!!
„	„	Wednesday, 4th	28°
(With a heavy fall of snow; East wind)			
	Thursday, 5th (more snow; East wind)		27°
	Friday, 6th (East wind)		29½°
	Saturday, 7th „		25½°
	Sunday, 8th (wind West; rain in forenoon)		35½°
	Monday, 9th (wind N.E.)		30°
	Tuesday, 10th (wind North)		33°
	Wednesday, 11th „		31°

* On the night of Monday, Jan. 2nd, the thermometer at †Coventry's was 1 below zero; at Melton Lodge it was 3 below zero; and at High-field Observatory, near Nottingham, it was 4 below zero.

Thermometer :

	Hottest.	Coldest.
Night of Wednesday, and Thursday 12th	—	27½°
„ Friday, 13th	—	28°
Saturday, 14th (wind South; fine)	51°	29°
Sunday, 15th (wind East; foggy)	—	29°
Monday, 16th	40°	31°
Tuesday, 17th	50°	40°
Wednesday, 18th (wind South)	—	45°
Thursday, 19th (wind S.E.)	—	37°

Wednesday, Jan. 18th, 1854.

Belvoir—Belvoir Kennels.

Found a fox at Granby Gap; killed him near Wiverton Hall. Drew Harby covert blank. Found at Jericho. I rode out with Lady Newport, but we missed the hounds.

“Rowton.”

Thursday, Jan. 19th.

Belvoir—Harby.

Found at Hose Gorse a very good fox, who went away pointing for Kinoulton; bore to the left by Hickling village, across the road, leaving the two Broughtons on the left; then bore to the left for Old Dalby, by Little Belvoir, through Holwell Mouth—went as if for the Old Hills; bore to the right to Kettleby, and then down into the vale again; when I came home. We went over a very pretty line, but the scent was very middling.

“Tom of Lincoln.”

“Harkaway Horse.”

Friday, Jan. 20th.

Quorn—Walton Cross Roads.

Drew some spinneys at Barton blank. Found at Walton Thorns, came away to Mundy's Gorse, away across the Foss Lane, leaving Ella's Gorse on the left, and Willoughby village on the left; bore to the right to Old Dalby, and up to Old Dalby Wood. Found again at Grimston Gorse, but did not do much.

“Merry Andrew.”

Saturday, Jan. 21st.

Cottesmore—Langham.

Found at Overton Park, went away merrily up to Cold Overton, and pointing for Knossington, when he turned back to the left, and came back by Lady Wood to Overton Park, and went away pointing for Oakham, where we lost him. Found at Ranksborough, went away to Whissendine village as hard as we could, but suddenly lost our fox. Went back to Ranksborough; found again, and went away the same way, bore to the left as if for Stapleford, then to right, and lost our fox near Ashwell. “The Engineer” came right on his head in a grass field, and gave me a rattler.

“The Engineer.”

“Rowton.”

Friday, Feb. 3rd.

Quorn—Ashfordby.

We went to Weston on the 23rd January, and to London on the 30th, and I returned to Melton last night. The weather has been open and warm since we left, but this evening there was a sharp frost (the thermometer was about 27°, in the night 23°), and the hounds did not come to Ashfordby till past one o'clock. We went to Cream Lodge, and found two or three foxes, but the fog was so thick they gave it up and went home.

“Tom of Lincoln.”

“The Engineer.”

H. Forester rode “Tom of Lincoln” at Old Dalby, on Tuesday, 24th January.

Monday, Feb. 13th.

Belvoir—Plungar.

Drew Granby Gap and Harby Covert blank. Went to Wiverton, found a fox in a plantation and killed him almost directly. Found another fox in a small covert of Lord Manvers', (called, I believe, Ho Hill,) ran him by Cotgrave, through Cotgrave Gorse, almost to Nottingham, back to Kinoulton Woods, where we lost him. Drew Colston Basset Coverts and Hose Gorse blank. Found at Clawson Thorns, came away to Holwell Mouth, ran a ring round, when he went away over the Vale; but night coming on the hounds were stopped. Country very dry, and a bad scent.

“Tom of Lincoln.”

“Rowton.”

Tuesday, Feb. 14th.

Cottesmore—Brooke Hall.

Found at Prior's Coppice, ran him about the covert for a short time, when he went to ground in a drain just outside the wood. Dug for some time, but could not get him out. Drew Lady Wood blank. Found at Overton Park, went

away merrily pointing for Owston Wood, turned to the right up to Cold Overton, where we lost him. Found at Ranksborough, went away towards Rocart, and hunted slowly down to Whissendine village, and lost him; they went back to Ranksborough and found another fox.

“Merry Andrew.”

Wednesday, Feb. 15th.

Quorn—Great Dalby.

Found at Gartree Hill, went away to Little Dalby, leaving it on the right, across the road up to the new plantation, where he was headed; turned to the left, crossed the Oakham road by Old Bury Gorse; then turned to the left, pointing for Stapleford, very pretty pace; came to a check among the hares and rabbits—25 minutes; he was headed at the Whissendine brook, near Stapleford, and we hunted him slowly back by Burton Lazars to Great Dalby, near which we lost him. Went to Thorpe Trussels, found and came away towards Ashby Pasture, but Sir Richard lost his fox before he got there; cast forward to Ashby Pasture, and in the wood a tired fox jumped up before the hounds, evidently our hunted fox and was killed. Found at Cream Lodge, went away for Gaddesby, turned to the left, and bore for South Croxton, and so hunted slowly up to Thorpe Trussels, and through Ashby Pasture to Cream Lodge again, where we lost him.

“The Engineer.”

New Horse.

Friday, Feb. 17th.

Quorn—Walton Cross Roads.

Drew Burton Spinneys and the coverts at Prestwold blank. Found at Walton Gorse, went away towards Wymeswold, leaving Ella's Gorse on the left, and lost him. Drew Ella's blank. Found at Willoughby Gorse, went away towards the Curate's Gorse, and lost our fox near Widmerpool: a

dry, blowing day—no scent at all. In the afternoon showers of rain and hail came on, and a gale of wind ; at night the ground was covered with snow, and the thermometer, which stood at twelve o'clock at 50°, went down at eleven p.m. to 26°.

“ Rowton.”

Wednesday, Feb. 22nd.

Quorn—Baggrave.

Drew John o' Gaunt blank ; went to the Coplow, just as we reached the covert a fox jumped up and went into Botany Bay, round the Coplow, through the bottom of the gorse, away along the Newton Hills, pointing for Skeffington ; bore to the left through Tilton Wood and Skeffington Wood, left Robin-a-Tiptoe on the left ; through Owston Wood, away from the Little Wood to Launde, and back again to Tilton Wood, when he beat them.

“ Tom of Lincoln.”

Friday, Feb. 24th.

Quorn—Ratcliffe.

Found at Cossington Gorse, came pointing for Ragdale, turned to the right, through Thrussington village, along the side of the river to Brooksby, where he crossed ; ran up to the Leicester and Melton road, where, owing to some false information, we lost him. Went to Cream Lodge, and a fox went away immediately towards Ashby Pasture—in the meantime they chopped and eat a fox in the gorse ; they were then put on the first fox, hunted him to Ashby Pasture, through the wood, picked it out slowly to Thorpe Trussels, hunted it in the covert, and marked it away at the end pointing for Burrow, but he was gone too long for them to own it: the second good fox we had unfortunately lost to-day. Went back to Cream Lodge, found two more foxes, came away with one towards Kirby, and lost him ; went

back again; found again, and came away through Ashby Pasture; hunted him slowly to Great Dalby, where we lost him.

“Merry Andrew.”

* T. Moncreiffe: “Rowton.”

Saturday, Feb. 25th.

Belvoir—Three Queens.

Found at Tipping’s Gorse, fox went to ground in the covert. Found at Sproxton Thorns, ran a fox five or six fields to ground in a drain. Found again, and ran up to Bescaby Oaks, into Croxton Park, through Lawn Hollow, back to Bescaby Oaks, and lost him. Found in the evening at Stonesby Spinney, and killed him near Garthorpe, after a quick 15 minutes. I did not get away with them.

“The Engineer.”

“Harkaway Horse.”

Monday, Feb. 27th.

Quorn—Skeffington; Ilston.

Drew Norton Gorse blank. Found at Shankton Holt, came away merrily towards Carlton for a few fields, when we came to a check, and hunted slowly up to Norton by Galby. Found in the afternoon at Rolleston Gorse, came away over the Skeffington lordship towards Keythorpe; turned to the left by Tugby to Tilton Wood, where I left them, and they did no more.

“Tom of Lincoln.”

Tuesday, Feb. 28th.

Cottesmore—Knossington.

Went to Owston Wood, where we found two or three foxes, and remained there till about four o’clock, when we came away with one up to Overton Park Wood, and back by Knossington to Little Owston Wood, when I came home.

“Merry Andrew.”

* Sir Thomas Moncreiffe.

Thursday, March 2nd.

Belvoir—Piper Hole.

Found at Clawson Thorns, went away to Holwell Mouth, and hunted slowly by Little Belvoir and Wartnaby Stone Pits to Grimston Gorse, where they killed him. Went to Holwell Mouth, found, and ran to Clawson Thorns; he came away through Long Clawson and Hose villages, through Hose Gorse, and we killed a couple of fields over the canal—a vixen fox, but without cubs. A large party out from Belvoir—the Duke and Duchess d'Aumale, Lady Ailesbury, Lady Pigot, Lady Keane, Mrs. Cochrane, &c.

“Rowton.”

Friday, March 3rd.

Quorn—Wartnaby Stone Pits.

Found at Holwell Mouth, came away to Clawson Thorns, where they could do nothing more with him. Went to Grimston Gorse, found, and went away, leaving Old Dalby Wood on the right, pointing for Willoughby, and lost him near the Foss Lane. Found at Mundy's Gorse, went away a good pace to Walton Thorns, remained some time in the gorse there, when he came back through the Six Hills Plantations, to Thrussington Wolds, away by Ragdale, to Shoby Scholes, where there were at least three foxes on foot, and the hounds divided, went on, leaving Lord Aylesford's Gorse on the right; then bore to the right, and ran prettily down to Saxelby, near which we lost him.

“Harkaway Horse.”

Saturday, March 4th.

Cottesmore—Little Dalby.

Found at the Punch-bowl, went away over Burrow Hill, where the hounds checked, and the fox either turned or they got a fresh one, came back through the Punch-bowl, by the

house, to Gartree Hill, where they could do nothing with him. Found again in the plantation at Dalby, and ran very prettily by Bury Gorse to Stapleford Park. Went to Ranksborough; found, and came away under Cold Overton village, and pointed for Pickwell, but lost him. Went back to Ranksborough, found again, and came away towards Leesthorpe; bore to the right, and ran a good pace down to Whissendine, where there was a long check, and they gave it up.

“Merry Andrew.”

Tuesday, March 7th.

Cottesmore——Tilton.

Drew Jane of Gaunt blank. Found at Tilton Wood. Came away through Skeffington Wood, leaving Tugby Wood on the right, into the bottom of Loddington Redish; came away, leaving Loddington on the right, bore to the left over Robin-a-Tiptoe, into Launde Great Wood, through that and the Little Wood, up to Launde Abbey, where there was a long check. Hit it off again to the Park Wood, out at the top pointing for Belton; bore to the right, back to Launde Great Wood, and away pointing for Tilton, where they lost him. Went to Owston Wood, found, and ran for some time in the Great Wood, through Owston Little Wood; and $6\frac{1}{2}$ couple of hounds slipped away with the fox, nobody with them but Colonel Lowther, up to Lady Wood, through Overton Park Wood, to Ranksborough. Came away at the top of the gorse, pointing for Leesthorpe, crossed the bottom, turned to the left, into the Cold Overton Spinney, where he headed back, and after a delay was killed in the bottom near Cold Overton Road. Went back to Ranksborough; found again; and I left them going towards Ashwell, but, having had enough to do, I came home. A good day's sport; ground dry and hard.

“Harkaway Horse.”

Saturday, March 11th.

Cottesmore—Brooke Hall.

Found a fox at Prior's Coppice; gave him one or two turns round the wood, came away towards Oakham, leaving Brooke on the right, turned to the right into Oakham Pasture, came away in view, ran him down to Oakham, through the garden at Catmos, and killed him. Went to Ranksborough, found, ran up to Cold Overton, back to the left, pointing for Oakham; left Langham on the right, through Whissendine village, nearly to Wymondham, where we got a view of our fox, rather beat, but Orbell bungled it and lost him.

“The Engineer.”

Monday, March 13th.

Quorn—Skeffington; Allextion.

Found at Allextion Wood. Came away across the brook to Wardley Wood; away at the Uppingham Road, bore to the left, by Lye Lodge, nearly to Prior's Coppice; then to the left, and lost him in Launde Park Wood. Found again at Vow's Gorse, and came across a magnificent country again to Launde: the scent did not appear good enough for hounds to run. I came home; but Dick Sutton went and found another fox at Keythorpe, and had another gallop to Launde.

“Merry Andrew.”

Tuesday, March 14th.

Cottesmore—Tilton Wood.

Found at Tilton Wood; went away, a great pace, towards Skeffington, when he turned short back, and they lost him near Owston Wood. Found in Owston Wood, and went away by Owston to Somerby, where they lost him. Drew Little Dalby blank, and I came home. A few drops of rain in the morning, but the day as dry and hot as ever.

“Harkaway.”

Saturday, March 18th.

Belvoir——*Belvoir*.

Went late, and met the hounds near Eastwell. They had found in Barkeston Wood, and ran their fox to Harby Hills, where they lost him. Went to Croxton Lings, found, and went away over the park, through Lawn Hollow, to Swallow Hole, on by Humberston Gorse, to Tippin's Gorse, where, after running some time in the gorse, they killed a fox. At the same time another fox went away, half the hounds with him; back through Swallow Hole, through Bescaby Oaks, across the park, through Lawn Hollow, left the Lings on the left, pointing for Branston; bore to the right by Croxton banks, then to Knipton, where I left them.

“Rowton.”

Monday, March 20th.

Belvoir——*Belvoir*.

The hounds went to Goadby Gorse, found, and killed a fox near the covert. We rode round by Belvoir, and back again to Goadby, where we arrived after they had killed their fox. Went to the Old Hills, found, and went away to Kettleby village, when he turned back, and they lost him near Old Sealford Gorse. Found at Holwell Mouth, but did nothing.

“Tom of Lincoln.”

I went away on Tuesday to Assizes at Salop, and returned on Saturday, 25th. On Tuesday, 21st, the *Cottesmore* hounds had a rattling good run. They found in the afternoon at Tilton Wood, ran by Skeffington to Rolleston, between Ilston and Norton, by Stretton to Glen Gorse, almost to Countesthorpe, and lost their fox near Arnsby.

Monday, March 27th.

Belvoir—Croxton Park.

Found at Coston Covert; lost him near the North Road. Found at Sproxton Thorns; came away, and killed him near Stonesby village. Found at Newman's Gorse two foxes; came away to Waltham Thorns, where the hounds killed a fox in the covert, and two or three more went away.

“Rowton.”

Monday, April 3rd.

Cottesmore—Burley-on-the-Hill.

Found in Burley Wood; one fox ran into a drain, was bolted with a terrier, and, after a short gallop, went to ground again in some earths in a covert near Normanton. Found at Hambleton Wood, and ran through Bisbrooke Gorse to Lyndon, where I left them.

“Merry Andrew.”

4th and 5th were Croxton Park Races.

Saturday, April 8th.

Cottesmore—Tilton Wood.

Found at Tilton Wood, and, after a couple of turns round Loddington Redish, killed a mangy dog-fox in Tugby Bushes. Found at Owston Wood; ran to Launde, and, after a ring, ran to ground in the Castle Banks. A frying hot day. We have not had a drop of rain for above two months.

“Rowton.”

The *Belvoir* hounds have killed 114 foxes this season.



CAME to Melton on Saturday, December 23rd, and my first day's hunting was on—

Tuesday, Dec. 26th.

Quorn—Thrussington.

Drew the Brooksby Spinneys and Cream Lodge Gorse blank; Ashby Pasture blank. Found at Thorpe Trussels, and went away towards Burrow, bore to the right, over a beautiful country towards Tilton; but the scent was wretched, and we lost our fox near John o' Gaunt. Found at John o' Gaunt a brace of foxes, ran one a few fields, lost him, and gave it up at half-past one—Sir Richard having to go into Norfolk that afternoon to shoot.

“Tom of Lincoln.”

“Rowton.”

Wednesday, 27th, a fall of snow, and Thursday, 28th, a sharp frost. Thermometer 25°.

Saturday, Dec. 30th.

Quorn—Kirby Gate.

Found at Goodricke's Gorse, ran a few fields, and back again to the gorse, went away slowly towards Saxelby, and

* Horses :—

“Tom of Lincoln.”

“Rowton.”

“Harkaway.”

ran to ground in a new drain near Welby village, dug out and killed one fox, and two more afterwards bolted from the drain, ran one back to Goodricke's Gorse, and away, leaving Newport Lodge just on the right, Old Scalford Gorse on the left, to Melton Spinney, near which they lost him. Drew Holwell Mouth blank.

"Tom of Lincoln."

"Rowton."

"Harkaway."

Went to Bretby on Monday, 1st January, 1855, and returned on Friday.

Saturday, Jan. 6th.

Cottesmore——Little Dalby.

Found in the Young Plantation, went a merry pace towards the Oakham road, to the left pointing towards Burton, and then to the left again to Gartree Hill, came away with two foxes, and ran one up to Burrow Hill, back to the Punch-bowl, had two or three foxes on foot, and kept running about Dalby half the day. Then went to Ranksborough, drew it blank! Lady Wood and Overton Park also blank.

"Tom of Lincoln."

Tuesday, Jan. 9th.

Quorn——Six Hills.

This is the only part of the country rideable, High Leicestershire being as hard as a board. We found at Mundy's Gorse, but were a long time before we could get the fox away; came away up to the Walton Lane, into the plantation, and after running about a little, he beat us. Found again at Walton Gorse, again a long time before they could rouse him (Sir Richard said he felt gout about him, and was certainly very slack in drawing, and declared there was no scent); got away at last one field, when he headed

back, got mobbed by the horse-men, and was killed just at the edge of the gorse. Went to Cossington Gorse, after the hounds had been a good while in covert, found and went away towards Thrussington village, turned to the left, over the two Foss Lanes, left Walton Cross Roads on his left, and Walton Thorns on the right, and ran into a drain between that covert and Burton village : a very merry 20 minutes.

“Tom of Lincoln.”

Wednesday, Jan. 10th.

The *Quorn* appointment was Lowesby, but there was a slight frost in the morning, and the hounds did not come.

Thursday, Jan. 11th.

Quorn—Skeffington; Keythorpe.

Found a fox at the Rams-head, but he got into a half-stopped earth. Drew Keythorpe Wood blank, and Hallaton Bottoms. Found at Fallow Closes, and ran up to Keythorpe Wood, where there was a long check; hunted slowly up to the Rams-head, and lost him. Found at Rolleston Gorse, went away over the brook, turned to the right up to Noseley, and down to the brook, pointing to Stanton Wood, and after running a few fields they lost him. Found again at Shankton Holt, but the fox had got a long start, and we could do nothing with him.

“Rowton.”

Went to Keythorpe after hunting; and on Friday shot Tugby Wood.

Pheasants	58
Hares	38
Rabbits	26
Woodcocks	6
Total	128

I killed four woodcocks.

Saturday, Jan. 13th.

Cottesmore—Loddington.

Found at Loddington Redish, two foxes, ran to ground in a drain near East Norton. Found at Skeffington Wood, and ran merrily through Tilton Wood, by Colborough and Robin-a-Tiptoe to Owston Wood, came away by Withcote, leaving Launde Wood on the left, back to Tilton, and I left them and came home, having a bad cold.

“Tom of Lincoln.”

Did not hunt again till March 2nd ! !

Friday, March 2nd.

Belvoir—Belvoir.

I believe this is the first day that any hounds in this part of England have been out, except for exercise ; and the *Belvoir* hounds killed three or four foxes when the ground was covered with deep snow.

We drew Normanton Thorns blank. Found at Normanton Small covert, and lost between Stanton and Elton. Found again at Elton Gorse ; one went to ground in the covert, and we killed the other (a vixen, heavy) near Elton Manor. Drew Jericho and Granby Gap blank. Took Lady F. Lloyd, Miss Grant, and Lady Newport to covert as far as Branston.

“Rowton.”

Saturday, March 3rd.

Quorn—Six Hills.

A wet, stormy morning. Found at Mundy's Gorse. Ran a ring round Walton Gorse, where another fox went away ; back again, by Six Hills, to Mundy's Gorse ; hung there a little, and then away along the brook-side towards Willoughby, and killed in the Foss Lane (a vixen). Found at

Old Dalby Wood ; ran a ring or two round by Wartnaby Stone Pits and Grimston, and lost our fox at Old Dalby. Found at Grimston Gorse, but the scent was bad, and we did no good.

“ Tom of Lincoln.”

Monday, March 5th.

Belvoir——Croxtan Park.

Found at Sproxton Thorns. Came away merrily up by Stonesby Spinney to Waltham Pasture, where he turned short to the right, and there was a check ; hunted by Waltham to within a field of Goadby Gorse, then to the right up to Croxtan Park ; after a long check in Lawn Hollow, came away towards Swallow Hole, and by Three Queens, to Denton, where there was another long check ; on again to Harlaxton Wood, and ran him to ground.

“ Harkaway.”

Wednesday, March 7th.

Belvoir——Piper Hole.

Found at Clawson Thorns. Ran up to Wartnaby Stone Pits, down into the vale, and back by Holwell Mouth to Clawson Thorns ; back again along the vale, and to ground near Old Dalby village. Found at Grimston Gorse ; came away up to the village, round by Old Dalby Wood and Grimston Spinney, and, after a long check, hunted our fox slowly as far as Saxelby village, when we lost him. Went back, drew Old Dalby Wood blank, and found a travelling fox two fields off ; went down into the vale at a merry pace nearly to Broughton, then turned to the right and came up through Holwell Mouth, on to Clawson Thorns, and, after running there a little while, came away, and killed him just below Long Clawson village.

“ Rowton.”

Friday, March 9th.

Quorn—Ashfordby.

Found at Goodricke's Gorse, and went away merrily up to Kettleby, crossed the road, and into Holwell Mouth, came back and lost our fox near Wartnaby; went to Aylesford's Gorse, where we found immediately, went away over Shoby Scholes' fields at a rattling pace, turned to the left, went by Wright's house, down to Saxelby, racing pace, back to the left nearly to Grimston, then turned to the left again, leaving Shoby to the left, pointed for Hoby village, came down nearly to the river, and the hounds were within 40 yards of their fox, and running for him, when they over-ran it, came to a check, and, strange to say, he beat them: it was 30 minutes up to this point, and though not straight, one of the fastest and best things I ever saw; they got a scent again, but I believe it was a fresh fox, and they could do nothing with it. The hounds behaved very well, and old Day, who was hunting them, deserved to be whipped for losing his fox in the manner he did.

"Tom of Lincoln."

Saturday, March 10th.

Cottesmore—Thistleton.

Found at Gunby Gorse, but could not get the fox away, so left him. Found at Woodwell Head, went away pointing for Burley, bore up to the left, and lost our fox at Cottesmore. After most of the field had partaken of a sumptuous luncheon, went and found at a covert between Cottesmore and Burley, ran two or three times backwards and forwards, and round about Cottesmore Gorse, but did no good.

"Harkaway."

A heavy fall of snow again on Saturday night. Thermometer, 24°. Wind, East.

Friday, March 16th.

Quorn—Bunny.

Drew Debdale Gorse, the Decoy, and all the Bunny coverts blank. Found at Willoughby Gorse, and came away merrily up to Mundy's Gorse—about 15 minutes—when he went to ground. Found in Mundy's Gorse another fox, but lost him. Found at Walton Gorse, came away up to Six Hills, and lost him in the Foss Lane Spinney. Drew Thrussington Wold blank; found in the fir plantation by the Foss Lane, came away through Thrussington Wold, by Ragdale, leaving Shoby Scholes on the left, to ground near Grimston village: a pretty gallop in the morning.

“Tom of Lincoln.”

Saturday, March 17th.

Cottesmore—Leesthorpe.

Drew the Dalby Spinneys and the Punch-bowl blank. Found in Owston Little Wood, crossed into the Great Wood, came away at the top; but he headed back, came through the wood again, and came away up the road going to Knossington, which he ran for about a mile; then turned to the left and ran very fast up to Owston village; turned to the right, and, leaving Somerby and Pickwell on the left, turned to the left up to Little Dalby, leaving the Punch-bowl on the left; ran under Burrow Hill a little way, then turned to the left again over the hill and pointed for Somerby again; bore to the left and through Pickwell village, and they ran him to ground in a drain close to the village. The time was 1 hour and 5 minutes from first finding, and about 45 minutes after he left Owston Wood, the pace good all the way. I got a fall over a rail between Pickwell and Little Dalby.

“Harkaway.”

Monday, March 19th.

Belvoir—Piper Hole.

Found at Clawson Thorns, a vixen fox; ditto at Holwell Mouth. Drew the Old Hills blank. Found at Melton

Spinney, came away down to the brook, where there was a long check. Hunted slowly up to Brentingby Spinney, through Freeby Wood and down to Saxby, where we lost him. Up to this time the scent seemed to be very bad; but we went to Goadby Gorse, found, and came away up to Wykeham; bore to the right down to Scalford, turned to the right, through Scalford Bogs, then pointed towards Goadby Park and on for Piper Hole; bore to the left up to Clawson Thorns, hung about 5 minutes in the covert, came away again pointing for Long Clawson as far as the windmill, then turned sharp to the right and killed him between Clawson and Piper Hole Gorse, after a very good 32 minutes. The hounds got away well and kept on capital terms with him all the time. To use Goodall's expression of this day, "We sugared it a bit this evening, after having had plenty of vinegar all the morning."

"Rowton."

Tuesday, March 20th.

Quorn—Six Hills.

Drew Old Dalby Wood blank. Found at Grimston Gorse, ran a few fields and lost him. Found at Lord Aylesford's Gorse, came away up to the Shoby Scholes Lane, where he went to ground. A fox slipped away from Shoby Scholes. Found at Walton Gorse and lost our fox, I forget where. Drew Ella's Gorse blank. Found a fox in a patch of gorse and ran him up to near Burton.

"Tom of Lincoln."

Saturday, March 24th.

Cottesmore—Knossington.

Found at Owston Wood, ran for about a quarter of an hour in covert, and killed. Found in Launde Park Wood, went away through Loddington village, and to ground over the brook in East Norton parish (which I did not know till this day was in the *Cottesmore* country; it appears that the Ram's-head was specially reserved as a *Quorn* covert, being in

fact situated in the *Cottesmore* country). Drew Loddington Redish blank. Found at Tilton Wood, a very good fox, and we hunted him slowly over the Skeffington lordship, leaving Billesdon town on the right, and lost him between Billesdon and Galby. Drew Jane of Gaunt blank.

“Tom of Lincoln.”

Wednesday, March 28th.

Belvoir—Croxton Park.

Drew Coston Covert blank. Found at Newman's Gorse, ran through Freeby Wood, and lost him. Found at Melton Spinney, went away over the brook, and ran prettily up to the Old Hills, as far as the Nottingham Road, when he turned to the right, and made a ring round, leaving Holwell Mouth on the right, up to Clawson Thorns, and eventually killed him in the covert. Lady Keane was out, and rode, as usual, very forward.

Thursday and Friday were Croxton Park races.

“Rowton.”

Saturday, March 31st.

Quorn—Kirby Gate.

Drew Gartree Hill, Thorpe Trussels, Ashby Pasture, and Cream Gorse, all blank! Found a fox, and unluckily chopped him in John o' Gaunt. Found another at the Coplow, and went away up to the Leicester road, leaving Houghton just on the right, when they turned back to the Coplow, and were whipped off.

Lord Wilton's “Ticket.”

Monday, April 2nd.

Quorn—Skeffington; Ilston.

Found at Shankton Holt, came away to Noseley, bore to the right, and, after hunting him over a fine country, lost him near Harborough. I came home, and they afterwards found (at Langton Caudle, I believe) and killed a fox after a good hunting run.

“Harkaway.”

This morning the whole country, including the hedges and trees, was covered till eleven o'clock with a dense white rime. The thermometer has been every night for the last week at about 25° in the night.

Thursday, April 5th.

Quorn—Skeffington; Keythorpe.

Found at Vow's Gorse, ran a ring round Keythorpe, to Tugby Wood, through Loddington Redish, back by Keythorpe and the Ram's-head, across to Hallaton Bottoms, beyond which we lost him. They then went to Easton Park, and I came home: day hot and ground getting dry, though we had twelve to fifteen hours heavy rain on Tuesday. There were two or three foxes on foot at Keythorpe and at Loddington Redish.

"Tom of Lincoln."

Saturday, April 7th.

Cottesmore—Brooke Hall.

Drew Prior's Coppice blank. Found at Brown's Coppice, and ran through Launde Wood and Owston Wood up to Knossington, and lost their fox near Cold Overton. I came out late, and found them drawing Lady Wood blank. Found at Owston Wood, and slipped away towards John o' Gaunt. I did not get away with them, but they ran a ring prettily back to Owston Wood: about 25 minutes.

"Harkaway."

Monday, April 9th.

Belvoir—Belvoir.

Found in Barkeston, I believe, only one fox, and killed him (or her) in a "pheasant corner" among the laurels; found another on Blackberry Hill, and ran *her* by the Reservoir to Knipton, where they stopped the hounds. Drew

Croxtan Banks and all the way to Denton blank. Found in a gorse at Harlaxton, and came away at his brush, but lost almost directly. Georgy and Francis were out, and Lucy, and Ladies Katherine and Alice Egerton.

“Harkaway.”

Tuesday, April 10th.

The *Fitzwilliam*—Cole’s Lodge.

The *Cottesmore* hounds being preparing for Tattersall’s on Monday next, Lord Fitzwilliam’s were invited to take their place. They met first at Knossington, and then trotted to Cole’s Lodge, where there was an immense field to meet them. Drew Launde Park Wood blank; found at Launde Great Wood, and came away towards Colborough Hill leaving Robin-a-Tiptoe on the right as if for Tilton Wood; then bore to the right over Robin-a-Tiptoe to Owston Wood, where we lost him. Found again at Tilton Wood, came away merrily towards Loddington Redish, through it and Tugby Bushes up to Keythorpe; turned to the left, leaving East Norton village just on the right, then to the right nearly to Vow’s Gorse, leaving it on the right, up to Allextan Wood, and left off between Allextan and Wardley Wood. The day was execrable, and it blew a whole gale all day, but in spite of any adverse circumstances of wind and weather, old Sebright was very near showing us a real good run: he looks as sharp and well as he did when I saw him last in my Cambridge days, sixteen years ago. The three Fitzwilliams were out, as well as Hopetoun, J. Thompson, R. Sutton, Burrowes, and, for aught I know, many other M. F. H.’s.

“Rowton.”

Thus ends the hunting season of 1854—5: the worst in all respects I ever remember; I had but three horses, but the frost was so long, and the sport so short, they are as fresh at the end of the season as at the beginning.

1863-64.*

Monday, Nov. 2nd, 1863.

Quorn—Kirby Gate.

Drew Gartree Hall blank, a bad omen to begin with, but the covert was wet and dripping, and there were no cubs bred there, though plenty on the opposite hill about Little Dalby; went to Thorpe Trussels, three or four foxes on foot directly, came away with one, and lost him near Gartree Hill. Found another at Thorpe Trussels, and hunted him over a fine line, to ground, in a drain between Twyford and Ashby Folville. A tremendous storm of wind and rain in the night.

“Planet.”

“Oberon.”

[I hunted with the <i>Quorn</i>	.	.	.	.	20 times.
„ „ <i>Belvoir</i>	.	.	.	.	14 „
„ „ <i>Tailby</i>	.	.	.	.	10 „
„ „ <i>Sir J. Trollope</i>	.	.	.	.	3 „
					<hr/>
					47 „

And, including one day with the *Pythley*, and one at *Savernake*, in all 49 times.].

* Horses :—

Bay horse, “Holderness”	.	.	.	.	7 years old.
Chestnut horse, “Planet”	.	.	.	.	6 „
Black horse, “Oberon”	.	.	.	.	6 „
Chestnut horse, “King of the Vale,” (sold at Tattersall’s, 1864)	.	.	.	.	5 „
Bay mare, “Mendicant”	.	.	.	.	9 „

Wednesday, Nov. 4th.

Belvoir—Piper Hole.

Found at Clawson Thorns, several foxes; came away at first towards Goadby, round to the right through Holwell Mouth, up to the Nottingham Road, when he turned down into the vale, and pointed as if going for the Curate's Gorse, but bore round to the right, and came back by Clawson village to Clawson Thorns: about 50 minutes from leaving the covert. I got a fall in the vale—my horse getting his hind legs into a wide blind ditch. Drew the Old Hills blank—there were seven or eight foxes there the last time: they were, I suppose, under ground. Found at Scalford Bogs, run to Melton Spinney, where there were two or three foxes on foot, and up to the Grantham Road, and left off. There were three or four foxes in Holwell Mouth.

“Holderness.”

“King of the Vale.”

Friday, Nov. 6th.

Quorn—Six Hills.

Found at Cossington Gorse, ran him up to Thrussington Wold, and killed—about 15 minutes: a fine old fox. Found another, and lost him. Found at Shoby Scholes, lost him near Grimston. Found again at Shoby Scholes, but the hounds divided, and the scent seemed to fall off.

“Mendicant.”

“Oberon.”

Monday, Nov. 16th.

Quorn—Wartnaby Stone Pits.

Drew Kant's Thorns blank. Found at Welby Pond, a capital wild fox; he went away for Ashfordby, crossed the river near Kirby, which threw the field out a good deal—after crossing the river he bore to the left by Guadalupe, across the Oakham Road, down to the river, which he again crossed, through Burbidge's Covert at Thorpe Arnold, back

along the river side through the plantations to Stapleford Park, where we lost him: I believe it was 30 minutes up to Burbidge's Covert, which, coming by Kirby, was a great pace. Found again at Gartree Hill, came away by Little Dalby and Leesthorpe, and marked him to ground between there and Rocart. The scent not so good as in the morning.

“ Planet.”

“ Oberon.”

* Mr. Mott: “ Mendicant.”

Lady Newport: “ Hereford.”

Tuesday, Nov. 17th.

Tailby†—Cole's Lodge.

Found at Prior's Coppice three or four foxes, came away for Branston, bore to the right by Brooke Hall, and ran very prettily down to the brook-side, and to ground—20 minutes; dug him out and turned him down, and they ran him three fields in view, and killed him in the middle of a big field: very satisfactory, as, though the hounds have had good sport, they wanted blood. Drew Lucas's Gorse blank. Found an outlying fox in a turnip field, crossed the railway near Manton, pointed for Burley Wood, but turned a little to the right, and we ran him to ground in Hambleton Wood.

“ Holderness.”

Mr. Mott: “ Mendicant.”

Monday, Nov. 30th.

Belvoir—Waltham.

Found at Coston Covert; a fox soon went away, but the hounds were running another in covert, and could not get away. We ran in covert for a long time, but could not get another fox to go away. Went to Sproxton Thorns, and a fox went away directly, but after going four or five fields

* Mr. William Mott, of Wall.

† “ *Tailby*” means that part of the *Quorn* country now called the “ *Billesdon*” Hunt.

went into a drain under a gate; they poked him out, and ran very fast up to Bescaby Oaks, which he skirted, through the corner of Swallow Hole, and killed him just under Croxton village: 16 or 17 minutes. Drew Croxton Lings, but did not find again.

“ Planet.”

“ Mendicant.”

Tuesday, Dec. 1st.

Tailby—Cole’s Lodge.

Drew Oakham Pasture blank. Found at Prior’s Coppice, lost some time in getting away with our fox, but ultimately hunted him by Launde Abbey, right round Launde Park Wood, back, leaving the Abbey on the left, to Owston Wood, through between the two woods, and came away over a fine line to Cold Overton, where I left them, and came home, having to go up to London by the train.

“ Holderness.”

“ Oberon.”

Friday, Dec. 4th.

Quorn—Brooksby.

Drew Cream Gorse and Brooksby Spinneys blank. Found at Ashby Pasture two or three foxes, but short running ones, and had no sport. Drew again Thorpe Trussels and Queniborough Spinney, but did not find.

“ Planet.”

“ Mendicant.”

Monday, Dec. 7th.

Quorn—Six Hills.

Found at Cossington Gorse, the fox came away towards Six Hills, but they lost him. Drew Thrussington Wolds blank, found at Lord Aylesford’s, and came away leaving Grimston on the left to Saxelby Spinney, and lost him. Found at Grimston Gorse two foxes, came away together; ran one by

Wartnaby to Holwell Mouth, and on to Clawson Thorns; came away as if for Goadby, turned round to the right, and came back by Holwell Mouth and the Old Dalby Wood, to Grimston Gorse. The scent appeared wretchedly bad.

First, a new horse on trial.

“Holderness.”

Wednesday, Dec. 9th.

Belvoir—Waltham.

Found at Waltham Pasture; came away through Freeby Wood, and ran a few fields towards Garthorpe, when they lost him. Found at Burbidge’s covert, crossed the river, pointing for Stapleford; turned to the right nearly up to the Oakham Road, and turned back, crossing the river into the covert: a very quick 30 minutes; he hardly stayed a minute in the covert, when he re-crossed the river, and went back nearly the same line, crossed the Oakham Road, under Burton Lazars, pointing for Little Dalby, ran through one of Mr. Hartopp’s spinneys, and leaving Gartree Hill just on the right, they killed him in the spinney between Gartree Hill and Burdett’s Gorse: 1 hour and 10 minutes, and a very good run. They afterwards found a fox at Brentingby Spinney, but I went home.

“Planet.”

* Francis: “Mendicant.”

Friday, Dec. 11th.

Quorn—Lowesby.

Found at John o’ Gaunt, ran a short ring, and back to Lowesby, and lost him. Found at the Coplow, and ran backwards and forwards all about the country, finally losing our fox near Lowesby. Tailby had a good day on Tuesday and Monday.

“Oberon.”

“Holderness.”

† Gerald: “Mendicant.”

* Hon. F. C. Bridgeman.

† Hon. G. O. M. Bridgeman.

Monday, Dec. 21st.

Quorn—Six Hills.

Drew Walton Thorns blank. Found at Cossington Gorse, a fox that looked suspiciously as if he had come out of somebody's pocket, and killed him almost directly. Drew Shoby Scholes blank. Found at Aylesford's Gorse, but could do no good.

"Planet."

"King of the Vale."

Francis: "Mendicant."

Wednesday, Dec. 23rd.

Belvoir—Waltham.

Drew Thorpe Spinney, Melton Spinney, and Brentingby Spinney blank. Found at Waltham Pasture, came away through Stonesby Spinney, bore to the right by Garthorpe and Coston village to Coston Covert on to Sewstern, and leaving Buckminster on the left, we lost him near Sewstern.

"Holderness."

"King of the Vale."

The thermometer was 24° last night, but quite mild in the morning.

Saturday, Dec. 26th.

Quorn—Beeby.

"Boxing Day," and a holiday at Leicester, the whole town seemed to have turned out; there must have been 200 or 300 vehicles of different sorts. We found at Scraftoft, and very soon lost our fox. Drew one or two spinneys, and then the Coplow, but blank; were going along the road for John o' Gaunt, when a fox jumped up in a field; we ran him by Marefield, past the covert at John o' Gaunt, over the brook, over the top of Woodbarrow Hill, to the corner of Owston Wood; then bore to the right to Launde Wood, thence to Loddington Redish, and, I believe, back to Launde Wood, but I left them and came home. The Leicester division that had hired horses for the day thoroughly enjoyed themselves.

"Planet."

"Oberon."

Gerald: "Hereford."

Monday, Dec. 28th.

Belvoir——Three Queens.

A frost in the morning, but the ground not much harder than it has been for some time, owing to the drought. We hunted soon after twelve o'clock. Found a fox at Tippin's Gorse, and came away by Hungerton, left Harlaxton on the right, crossed the turnpike road, to the reservoir, where there were two or three foxes, but, I believe, the hounds did not change; ran along the canal, which he crossed, then turned back, recrossed the canal, by the Reservoir Covert, and back across the road and through Harlaxton village, where he ran into a hole in the corner of a garden; they killed him, and another fox bolted out of the same place, and they ran him the same line back, to the reservoir, crossed the canal, and ran him into a farm behind the parsonage at Barrowby, where Lord and Lady Doneraile are living. The *Quorn* met at Widmerpool, and, I believe, had a blank day.

I must record that on Saturday, 19th, two of the Duke's hounds, "Barbara" and "Lady," were missing after drawing Coston covert; nothing was heard of them till Thursday, 24th, when the two hounds and a fox were all found lying dead, near each other, in Coston Covert. A sheep's paunch was also found, and the earth-stopper's terrier eating some, when they were looking for the hounds, dropped down dead almost immediately; it has been found to contain strychnine and other poison—*too disgraceful a proceeding !!!*

"Holderness."

"King of the Vale" fell lame on his way to covert.

Wednesday, Dec. 30th.

Belvoir——Piper Hole.

Found at Clawson Thorns, and killed a fox near the covert. Drew Holwell Mouth blank. Found at the Old Hills directly, and came away pointing for Scalford; turned to the right, came by Old Scalford Gorse, and down nearly to Noah Evans's house, crossed the Nottingham Road close to the turnpike, and lost him near Sysonby. I think the fox went

straight on by Sysonby, or rather, leaving Sysonby on the left, towards Kirby, but Cooper* made a cast back to the right, which was fatal. Gilmour,† unfortunately, got a fall just above this house, and broke his arm just below the elbow.

“Oberon.”

Francis: “Mendicant.”

Lady Newport and Gerald also out.

The New Year set in with a sharp frost, the thermometer being down as low as 11°, and for four or five nights below 20°; it froze till the 10th of January, and has since thawed, though very slowly. I did not hunt till—

Friday, Jan. 15th.

Quorn—Great Dalby.

Drew Gartree Hill and Burdett's Covert blank. Found at Thorpe Trussels, came away at a good pace to Great Dalby and on to Gartree Hill, out at the bottom of the covert and across the bottom to Little Dalby Hall, where we lost him. Found at Ashby Pasture and came away the same line, turned round, pointing for Kirby and lost him. Found at Cream Gorse and ran back through Ashby Pasture to Thorpe Trussels and lost him. A cold, foggy day, East wind, and thermometer very little above freezing point.

“Holderness.”

“Mendicant.”

Saturday, Jan. 16th.

Belvoir—Saltby Church.

Found at Sproxtton Heath Gorse and ran to ground between Wyvill and Stoke, 16 minutes as hard as they could

* J. Cooper, huntsman to the *Belvoir* hounds.

† Mr. W. L. Gilmour.

go. Found again at Tippin's Gorse; came away, leaving Hungerton on the right, through Denton Park, along the banks, leaving Harston on the right, to Knipton, pointed for Croxton Park, but turned back to the right by Eaton and Branston, and we left him near the plantations by the Stathern Lodge. A very good day's sport.

"Planet."

"Oberon."

Monday, Jan. 18th.

Quorn—Wartnaby Stone Pits.

Drew Holwell Mouth and Welby Pond blank. Found at Grimston Gorse, went away, leaving Old Dalby Wood on the right and Old Dalby village also on the right, pointing for Willoughby; bore to the right and ran up to the Curate's Gorse, through the covert and on to the Parson's, which is very thick, and they could not make any more of him: 28 minutes to the Curate's, very straight and fast.

"Holderness."

Wednesday, Jan. 20th.

Belvoir—Piper Hole.

Drew Clawson Thorns, the Old Hills and Melton Spinney blank. Found at Scalford Bog and went away directly very fast to Clawson Thorns. He was going down into the vale, but was headed and came back through the covert, then along the hills to Piper Hole, Harby Hills, to Stathern Point, where he turned down into the vale, round Stathern village, and I left them going into Barkeston Wood.

"Planet."

"Oberon."

Friday, Jan. 22nd.

Quorn—Beeby.

Found at Scraptoft, ran a few fields and lost him. Drew the Coplow blank. Found at John o' Gaunt three foxes. Chopped one in covert; came away with another up wind along the Newton Hills. There was little or no scent; but the fox got headed back into the hounds' mouths in a little plantation, very unlucky! Drew Lowesby and Baggrave plantations. Found at Barkby Holt, but did nothing. A wet, stormy day.

“Holderness.”

Saturday, Jan. 23rd.

Tailby—Burrow Village.

Found at the Punch-bowl two or three foxes. The hounds divided and we did nothing but run one to ground on the top of Burrow Hill. Found at Ranksborough and went away as hard as we could; but he got into a drain close to the Colonel's house at Barleythorpe, 8 minutes, and we left him there. Went to Overton Park, where we found three or four foxes. Went away through Lady Wood, as if for Owston Wood; but unfortunately turned back, came through Overton Park, and away at a hunting pace down to Langham; bore a little to the right, across the railway and canal, and hunted him up to Burley Wood, where we left them on a very cold scent.

“Planet.”

“Mendicant.”

Lady Newport and Alice Anson were out, and quantities of ladies, including Mrs. Lowther, Mrs. Noel, Mrs. Wood and her daughter, Lady Gresley, Mrs. Finch, Mrs. Pryme, &c., &c.

Monday, Jan. 25th.

Quorn—Six Hills.

Drew Cossington Gorse, Thrussington Wolds, Aylesford's covert and Shoby Scholes, all blank, which was unlucky, as I had to come home to go by the three o'clock train to Burghley. They afterwards found at Grimston Gorse and had a nice run of 40 minutes to ground near Goadby. Walter Scott * rode "Oberon."

"Holderness."

Friday, Jan. 29th.

Quorn—Lowesby.

Drew John o' Gaunt blank. Found at the Coplow. Came away through Botany Bay and pointed for Keyham. Came round by Quenby Hall and back, as if for the Coplow; but crossed the road, leaving it on the right and Billesdon town on the right, and we lost him near Rolleston. They afterwards drew Scaptoft, where they found, but could not do much. Clowes † had a fall in the early part of the day and was obliged to go home.

"Planet."

On Saturday, 30th, *Tailby's* ‡ hounds met at Allextton, but could not hunt owing to the frost the night before.

Tuesday, Feb. 2nd.

Tailby—Withcote.

Found half a dozen foxes in Owston Wood, ran for some time in covert, and finally ran one to ground close to Owston village. Drew Tilton and Skeffington Woods, killed a maimed fox, which the hounds would not break up. Drew Loddington Redish blank. Found in Launde Great Wood and ran up to Tilton Wood, where we lost him.

"Planet."

"Holderness."

* Lord Walter Scott.

† Mr. S. W. Clowes, master of the *Quorn* hounds.

‡ Mr. W. W. Tailby, master of the *Billesdon* hounds.

Saturday, Feb. 13th.

Belvoir.

Hunting was stopped by the frost on the 4th, and we did not hunt again till 13th; it was a wild, windy day. Went to Tippin's Gorse and found a fox, and lost him near Croxton Banks. It came on to blow a gale, and we could do nothing more.

"Oberon."

"Planet."

Monday, Feb. 15th.

Quorn—Six Hills.

Went to Walton Thorns, where we found and went away directly, pointing for Walton village; turned to the right, pointing straight for Wymeswold; left the village just on the right, pointing for Rempstone; turned to the right, crossed the brook back to Wymeswold village, where they checked. Up to this point it was about 20 minutes, racing pace. The fox went through the garden of the parsonage; they hit it off on the other side, and ran to Willoughby Gorse. The fox was seen going out of the covert; they ran him up to Willoughby village, when he turned short back, and was killed in the gorse: 45 minutes altogether, very good, first 20 minutes without a check.

Drew Ella's Gorse blank; Shoby Scholes and Lord Aylesford's covert also blank. Found at Brudenell's Gorse, came away with a bad scent by Little Belvoir, left Holwell Mouth on the left, by Holwell village; left Scalford on the left and ran to Melton Spinney, where they gave him up. A good day's sport.

"Holderness."

"Mendicant."

Tuesday, Feb. 16th.

Tailby—Cole's Lodge.

Found at Prior's Coppice, went away with a bad scent down the valley by Brooke towards Manton, and lost him. Drew Manton Gorse blank. Drew Prior's Coppice again, but did not find. Found at Launde Park Wood and killed a fox in the wood. Went to Overton Park Wood, where we found, but the day became very wild and stormy, and we could do no good.

“Planet.”

Thursday, Feb. 18th.

Sir J. Trollope—Wymondham.

Found in a covert outside Stapleford Park, went away on the Burton Lazars side, turned to the right, and ran prettily over those fine flat grass fields to the railway crossing at Wiverby, where there was a check, owing, I believe, to the fox having been run and turned over by a sheep dog; they viewed him again over the Melton and Stamford Road, but never could do any more good. Went to Woodwell Head, found, but did no good.

“Oberon.”

Friday, Feb. 19th.

Quorn—Great Dalby.

There was a sharp frost; we went to covert, but were not able to hunt.

Came back to Melton on Wednesday, 24th; they hunted on Friday, but I did not hunt till—

Monday, Feb. 29th.

Belvoir—Saltby Church.

There was so thick a fog we did not hunt till the middle of the day. Found at Sproxton Heath Gorse, and soon lost him. Found again at Tippin's Gorse, and had a pretty 9 or 10 minutes to ground in a drain. Found again at Herring's Gorse, but did not do much more.

“Holderness.”

“King of the Vale.”

Tuesday, March 1st.

Quorn—*Queniborough*.

These hounds met at Widmerpool yesterday, and had a good run from the Parson's Gorse to Holwell Mouth.

Found at Cream Lodge, and ran very hard to Rotherby village, where we lost him. Bromley* got a bad fall, and a concussion of the brain. Drew Brooksby Spinneys blank, and Ashby Pasture blank. Found at Thorpe Trussells, came away at a good pace to Burrow village, from there to Newbold, and lost our fox near Marefield: a fine line and fair pace, but the hounds were ridden on by a large field galloping up the roads, or we should probably have had a fine run. Lady Newport was out.

"Planet."

"Oberon."

Edmund B.: "Mendicant."

Wednesday, March 2nd.

Belvoir—*Waltham*.

Found at Sproxtton Thorns, went away to Coston village, where there was a check of nearly 10 minutes, they hit him off again, ran hard, leaving Coston covert on the left, up nearly to Wymondham, which they left on the left; bore to the right down to Stapleford Park, leaving Saxby on the right, across the park to Laxford's Plantation, where they killed him after running in the plantation a few minutes. It was 40 minutes up to Stapleford Park pales, and 1 hour and 5 minutes altogether; six or seven couple of hounds went on with another fox, and were stopped near Whissendine. Very few people got away with the hounds from Coston village, of which I was not one, and I only caught them in Stapleford Park. Coming back towards Wyfordby, a fox was viewed and the hounds laid on; they hunted him into Stapleford Park, but with very little scent, and lost him. Drew Newman's Gorse and Stonesby Gorse blank, and I came home.

"Holderness."

"King of the Vale."

* Mr. W. Bromley Davenport.

We went to Savernake, and I hunted on Monday, 7th, with the *Tedworth* hounds, and had a very good day. Lord Rivers mounted me, and his horse had quite enough to do. We came back on Wednesday; there was 10 degrees of frost that night, and a good deal of snow on the ground, and we did not hunt on Thursday.

Friday, March 11th.

Quorn—Kirby Gate.

Found at Gartree Hill, came away, leaving Little Dalby on the right, by the Burton Plantation, over the road, and ran fast to Latchford's Plantation—20 minutes; hit him off through the covert into Stapleford Park, where there was a difficulty; the hounds divided, but *Goddard soon got them together again, and they ran very fast out of the Park, over the railway, leaving Saxby on the right, and Freeby village just on the left, pointed for Garthorpe—here a most tremendous storm of wind, thunder and hail came on, and we lost our fox close to Sproxton Thorns. I believe our fox went on to the right towards Woodwell Head, but the storm was so violent, his life was saved. This was a very fine run.

“Planet.”

“King of the Vale.”

Saturday, March 12th.

Belvoir—Waltham.

Found at Burbidge's covert. Two foxes came away; we ran a few fields towards Brentingby, then to the left across the road, left Saxby on our right, to Freeby Wood, through the wood and through Waltham Pasture, and away, pointing for Stonesby; turned to the left, leaving Waltham on the right, and ran to ground between Waltham and Goadby Gorse. Found again in Goadby Gorse, and killed our fox in the Bullamores; drew Melton Spinney, found, and lost our fox near Scalford. Found again at Croxton Lings, and

* J. Goddard, huntsman to the *Quorn* hounds.

came away across the park to Lawn Hollow; the fox came back, which Lord Forester thought was a vixen, and the hounds were stopped. Went to Bescaby Oaks, where a fox was viewed, and came away at the corner, pointing for Waltham; he ran to Croxton Park, jumped the wall backwards and forwards two or three times, and the hounds killed him in the middle of a grass field. He was a large dog-fox, and quite stiff, and must have been our hunted fox, either from Burbidge's covert or Melton Spinney.

"Holderness."

"Mendicant."

Monday, March 14th.

Quorn—Ratcliffe.

Found at Cossington Gorse, came away and ran by Thrussington village, round by Shoby Scholes, back by the corner of Thrussington Wold and round again by Ragdale, and to ground near the Saxelby and Ragdale bridle road. Drew Aylesford's Gorse blank. Found at Grimston Gorse, came away up to the plantation, and to the right, pointing for Saxelby; came back by Grimston to the Gorse, away again by Saxelby Plantation, from thence by Little Belvoir, across the road and straight through Holwell Mouth, by Landyke Lane to Scalford, which he left on his right, to Scalford Bogs, across the road to Wykeham; then bore to the left for Goadby, leaving Goadby Gorse on his right, and we lost him between Goadby village and Croxton Lings. The scent was never apparently good, but it was a good hunting run.

"Oberon."

Tuesday, March 15th.

Tailby—Knossington.

Found at Ranksborough, came away leaving Cold Overton Hall on the left, pointing for Little Dalby, but there were two foxes, and we lost him. Went to the Punch-bowl, found and came away over Burrow Hill; away as if for Picknell, turned to the left and ran a ring back to the Punch-bowl; he

came out in view, and they ought to have killed him, but the whipper-in hollo'd them on to a fresh fox, and they lost him. Went back to Ranksborough, and found again; went away towards Langham, across the railway, where there was a long check, and I came home, they eventually hit him off again, ran him up to Burley Wood and killed him.

“ Planet.”

Monday, March 21st.

Quorn—Lodge-on-the-Wolds.

Drew Cotgreave Gorse blank. Found in a small plantation of Lord Manvers', got away on capital terms, and ran by Plumtree to Tollerton, where they nearly caught him in the garden; he got away, and they ran fast back by Rowhoe, to the Foss Lane—about 40 minutes up to this time; they then came to slow hunting, and ultimately lost him. Went to the Curate, found, and came away at a good pace towards Willoughby, bore to the left, and the hounds dividing we lost our fox near Old Dalby; a good day's sport.

“ Oberon.”

Tuesday, March 22nd.

Tailby—Cole's Lodge.

Found at Prior's Coppice, but soon lost our fox. Found at Overton Park, and again lost our fox after a while. An immense field out, and a bad scent; ground dry and wind cold. We found at Owston Wood but had no sport.

“ Planet.”

“ Holderness.”

Thursday, March 24th.

Quorn—Gaddesby.

Found at Cream Lodge, went away pointing for Gaddesby; left it on the right, bore for Queniborough, turned to the right, and killed him near the brook, between the South Croxton Spinney and Barkby Holt—1 hour and 20 minutes, and nice hunting run, the ground being hard and dry, and

the sun hot. Found again at Barkby Holt, went away pointing for Beeby, turned to the right for Barkby village, came through Barkby Thorpe, and getting a view of him two or three times killed him near Barkby Thorpe. I did not time it, but it must have been about half-an-hour: a very good day for hounds, having killed two dog-foxes, and satisfactory to the farmers, of whom a good many were out.

“Holderness.”

Francis: “Mendicant.”

Saturday, March 26th.

Tailby—Burrow.

Found at the Punch-bowl, came away through the plantation, and killed up by Dalby Hall, a fat dog-fox, who had evidently been living too well. Found in the Wheathill Plantation, came away leaving Leesthorpe on the left, and ran prettily up to Cold Overton village, where there was a check; hit it off again, and ran up to Overton Park, leaving the covert just on the right, turned to the left pointing for Oakham Pasture, then bore to the left, by Barleythorpe into Ranksborough Gorse, through the covert; crossed the road and bore to the left towards Rocart, crossed the road again pointing for Cold Overton, and ran him to ground at Ranksborough. A nice day's sport.

“Oberon.”

Monday, March 28th.

Quorn—Wartnaby Stone Pits.

Found at Brudenell's Gorse, went away for Saxelby, bore round to the left almost to Kettleby, then turned to the right and came back by Welby, and lost our fox close to Ashfordby: about 1 hour altogether, and a good pace at times. My horse kicked me on the leg as I was changing, and I was obliged to come home, and did not hunt till Wednesday. They went and found again at Holwell Mouth, and a second time at Brudenell's Gorse.

“Planet.”

“King of the Vale.”

Wednesday, March 30th.

Cottesmore—Greetham Inn.

Went with Granville* in a fly, and we were rather late; they had found, and run a small ring, and killed their fox soon after we joined them. We found again in Clipston Wood, but it came on very stormy and wet, and we did nothing.

“ Holderness.”

Thursday, March 31st.

Belvoir—Croxton Park.

Drew Bescaby Oaks, Stonesby Gorse, and Newman's Gorse, blank. Found at Freeby Wood, but got away on bad terms, and lost our fox. Found at Goadby Gorse; came away and ran prettily up to Branston, where they checked, and ran slowly to the Belvoir plantations, and lost him in Barkeston Wood. Drew Harby Hills and Piper Hole Gorse, and the Bullamoors, but did not find again.

“ Planet.”

“ King of the Vale.”

Friday, April 1st, were Croxton Park races; “ Mr. Clarke” † won the Granby on “ Bathilde.”

Saturday, the Grand National and other steeplechases took places at Burton Lazars; the day was fine, ground in good order, and everything went off well.

Tuesday, April 5th.

Tailby—Withcote.

It snowed hard all day, and the snow was three or four inches deep on the ground about Owston Wood; nevertheless Tailby put the hounds into the wood. Found in the Little Wood, ran for some time in the Big Wood, and at last got him away, and ran to ground in a drain close by Knossing-

* Earl Granville.

† Lord Wilton, on Lord Chesterfield's “ Bathilde.”

ton village; he bolted, and they ran him back and killed in Owston Little Wood, having been running about 1 hour and 10 minutes altogether; the day was so bad, Tailby did not draw any more.

“Holderness.”

Wednesday, April 6th.

Belvoir—Three Queens.

Found several foxes in the Heath Gorses—I think they were most of them vixens. Drew afterwards Swallow Hole and Bescaby Oaks, but did no good.

“Planet.”

Thursday, April 7th.

Cottesmore—Teigh.

Found a fox in Stapleford Park, and soon went away towards Whissendine; crossed the railway, and we lost him near Edmondthorpe. Drew Woodwell Head blank. Found at Gunby Gorse, and ran slowly to Buckminster, near which they lost him. There seemed to be only a very moderate scent, though it was a nice hunting day, and the ground in better order than I have seen it all the season.

“King of the Vale.”

Lady Newport: “Oberon.”

Gerald: “Holderness.”

Mrs. John Leslie: “Hereford.”

Saturday, April 9th.

Tailby—Blaston Pastures.

Went with John Leslie* by train to Manton, and rode on. Found at Marelebone Hole, and ran him through Stockerston Woods, and Allextion Wood, and lost him; hit it off again, or else found a fresh fox in Wardley Wood, but the hounds divided, and I went with part, who lost their fox

* Sir John Leslie.

near the Quaker's Lodge; the body, with Goodall*, were back in Wardley Wood; I came home. I was the only red coat out of Melton on the first day of the season at Kirby Gate, and the only one to-day, the last of the season, except the F. Grants†, father and son, who hunted at Belvoir. Thus ends the season 1863—64, in many respects a very jolly one.

“Holderness.”

J. Leslie: “King of the Vale.”

Friday, April 22nd.

Pytchley—Brampton Wood.

I thought my Journal for the season 1863—4 was closed, but I have to open it again. As I went from home in the morning to hunt with the *Pytchley*, and got off at Desborough station,—a mile from Brampton Wood,—we found a fox directly, and ran to another wood close by, where there were two or three foxes, but the scent was wretchedly bad. Found again at Carlton Wood, but could not run at all—a hot dry day; and I went afterwards to Boughton and slept there. This was the last day of the season with these hounds, who came from Brigstock kennels in the morning, and went to Brixworth after hunting.

Walter Scott's “Lady Bird.”

* F. Goodall, huntsman to Mr. Tailby.

† Sir Francis Grant, President of the Royal Academy.

1864-5.*



Came to Melton on Wednesday, December 21st. Sir J. Trollope's† hounds hunted on the 22nd, and had a good run from Stapleford; I did not go out. I went out on Friday, 23rd, to Great Dalby, the hounds came, but there was too much frost to hunt, and we could not hunt till—

Friday, Dec. 30th.

Quorn—Lowesby.

Drew John o' Gaunt blank. Found at the Coplow, came away at the bottom, bore to the left up to Tilton village, had a long check in the village; the fox's line was apparently marked for Tilton Wood, but we gave him up. Went to the Coplow again, found in Botany Bay, came away the same way as before, then turned to the left over the Newton Hills, and they ran prettily to Lowesby, where there was a check;

* Horses:—

"Holderness"	. . . . .	8 years old.
"Oberon"	. . . . .	7 "
"Mendicant"	. . . . .	10 "
"Garibaldi" (new horse by "Wild Hero")	. . . . .	5 "
"Black Satin" (new horse by —)	. . . . .	6 "
"Planet"	. . . . .	7 "

(Under treatment at Royal Veterinary College for disease in facial bones.)

Hacks:—

"Hereford"	. . . . .	5 years old.
"Marchioness"	. . . . .	12 "
"Black Lily"	. . . . .	6 "

† Master of the *Cottesmore* hounds.

then on to Baggrave, and lost him. Went to Barkby Holt, found, and came away pointing for Gaddesby; turned to the right, and ran slowly along the brook to South Croxton, and on to Baggrave, but the scent was bad and we came home. I rode my new horse "Garibaldi" in the afternoon, and liked him very much. George was out, and rode a horse of Gilmour's.

"Holderness."

"Garibaldi."

Saturday, Dec. 31st.

Belvoir—Croxton Park.

Went to covert and found the frost so sharp that riding was very bad. Cooper went into the vale and found a fox at Jericho. I came home; they did not do much.

The new year began with frost and snow, and we could not hunt till—

Thursday, Jan. 5th, 1865.

Belvoir—Waltham.

The ground was hard and slippery in places from a catching frost. Went to Sproxton Heath Gorse where we found, ran about the heath and lost our fox. Went to Stoke Pasture, found, and hunted him over the plough land very nicely, leaving Skillington on the left, pointing for Sewstern; then he turned to the left for Stoke, through which they hunted him; came away and ran over the heath almost to Grantham town, then bore to the left again to Harlaxton, where the hounds divided, and I saw no more of Cooper and the body, but came home, leaving $2\frac{1}{2}$ couple of hounds we had with us at Three Queens' Farm House.

"Black Satin."

"Oberon."

Saturday, Jan. 7th.

Belvoir—Croxton Park.

Went to Sproxton Thorns, found, and went away as far as Coston village; came back to the covert, found another fox, went away leaving Buckminster on the left, and lost him near Gunby Gorse. Found again in Buckminster Park, came away pointing for Sproxton, and ran to Sproxton Heath Gorse: the riding was very slippery and bad.

“Holderness.”

“Black Satin.”

Monday, Jan. 9th.

Quorn—Wartnaby Stone Pits.

Drew Welby Pond, where an outlying fox had been seen just before, but did not find. Found at Brudenell's Gorse, came away almost to Saxelby village, when he bore back to the left to the gorse again; went away again nearly the same line, and went into a drain under the road near Saxelby. Went to Old Dalby Wood, found in the plantation near Old Dalby Hall; came back through the wood and pointed for Kettleby, then back to Grimston, and we left him in the gorse. Clowes then went back to Saxelby, where we turned down the fox they got out of the drain; he ran a few fields, and went into another drain in the middle of a grass field near Grimston.

“Holderness.”

Lady Newport was out in the morning.

Wednesday, Jan. 11th.

Belvoir—Piper Hole.

Found at Goadby Gorse; went away to Caldwell village, then to the left up to Waltham, bore back to the left to Goadby, and killed him in the Rookery Plantation by the Bullamoors; another fox went away before they finished breaking him up, they got on him, and ran him a few fields, leaving Goadby Gorse on the right, into a hole close to the brook; the hounds pulled him out and killed him, but he appeared half-dead when they got him out. Found again at

Sealford Bogs, came away through Sealford, pointing for Melton Spinney; crossed the road and pointed for Wykeham, and came back and they lost him. Went to Clawson Thorns, found, and came away towards Piper Hole, across the lane towards Goadby, and lost him. Drew Piper Hole Gorse blank. Found in the Harby Hills, and came away to Eastwell; the hounds divided, and there seemed very little scent, so I came home. "Black Satin" gave me a fall over one of those little fences above the Harby Hills; he blundered on his head. I must try a different bridle.

"Oberon."

"Black Satin."

Lady Newport: "Marchioness."

Friday, Jan. 13th.

Quorn—Gaddesby.

Found in a hedgerow, and came up to Ashby Pasture, and on to Thorpe Trussels, where there were two foxes on foot, and they lost him. Found at Cream Lodge, and they came away at a good pace down to the river between Ashfordby and Frisby; turned to the left and ran to ground near Brooksby. They drew Barkby Holt, but I came home.

"Holderness."

Saturday, Jan. 14th.

Tailby—Burrow.

Found at Little Dalby, but could not make much of it. Went to Ranksborough, found, and ran to ground near Oakham. Went to Overton Park, found, ran by Langham to near Barleythorpe, when we lost him.

"Garibaldi."

Francis: "Mendicant."

Monday, Jan. 16th.

Quorn—Lodge-on-the-Wolds.

Found at Owthorpe Spinney, went away to Cotgrave Gorse, where the hounds divided, and we lost our fox. Found another fox at Kinoulton covert, but did no good. Drew

Wynnstay Gorse blank. Found at the Parson's Gorse, and came away at a merry pace nearly to Broughton, ran fast for 13 or 14 minutes, when there was long check; hit it off again, and crossed the Smite and one of its tributaries, running by Hose Gorse and Hose village nearly to Harby covert, and lost him between Harby and the hills. Found again at Holwell Mouth, came away by Little Belvoir, to the left by Wartnaby, and back by Kettleby, towards Holwell. I had only one horse out, so did not persevere.

“Holderness.”

Francis: “Mendicant.”

Wednesday, Jan. 18th.

Belvoir—Stonesby.

Went to Burbidge's covert, but drew it blank. Found at Melton Spinney, came away towards Scalford, bore to the right and ran a ring and back by Scalford Bogs and Scalford village, and to ground. Found at Newman's Gorse, came away pointing for Freeby; then bore to the right, nearly to Waltham, leaving Mr. Gillett's house on the left; crossed the turnpike road pointing for Goadby Gorse, turned to the left down the bottom, and we lost our fox near the brook side between Melton Spinney and the Broom covert; I went to Belvoir after hunting. On Thursday we shot part of Barkeston Wood; there was some snow. On Friday the Duke's hounds were at Lenton village, and had a good day. I was not out; there was a good deal of frost at Belvoir. I rode to Whatton to see my horse “Planet,”* who is going on very well. Saturday we were to have met at Plungar, but the frost stopped us. We left poor “Chow”† ill in the morning, and she died the same night—many a Christian has died less regretted!

* Planet, a chesnut horse, by Meteor, was, perhaps, the best horse I have ever had. He was injured in the bone of his head by a pitchfork, and after his case was given up as hopeless, Mr. Talbot, the veterinary surgeon, of Whatton, effected a complete cure. He died at Weston in 1879.

† A very favourite little Chinese dog, given to Lady Newport by the Duchess of Richmond.

Saturday, Feb. 4th.

Quorn—Cossington Gorse.

Found in the gorse, came away towards Thrussington, and he turned round to the left, skirted Segrave village, and we killed him between there and Walton Plantation—an old dog-fox, who must have got fat and short of exercise during the frost. Found again at Walton Thorns, and went away leaving old Mundy's Gorse on the right, and they ran him at a good pace for 20 minutes towards Willoughby: the riding was so bad from the snow under the fences, I did not follow them, and came home. There were very few people out, and most of them got falls, including Francis on "Mendicant."

"Holderness."

Tuesday, Feb. 28th.

Hounds have been out five or six days since the 4th, but this is my first day.

Tailby—Knossington.

Found at Ranksborough, ran to Overton Park, and away again leaving Branston on the right, and down nearly to Oakham town; bore to the right, and a fox (I think a fresh one) jumped up in a stubble field; the hounds nearly caught him, but he got into one of the Oakham Pasture plantations, they stuck close to him, and he went away, and they killed him on the railway near Manton. Went to Prior's Coppice, where there were certainly two foxes, but the afternoon got stormy and we did nothing. There were two or three foxes in Overton Park Wood.

"Holderness."

"Garibaldi."

Francis: "Mendicant."

Wednesday, March 1st.

Belvoir—Croxtan Park.

This was Ash-Wednesday, and Francis and I started at 12.30 a.m. after church; they had found a fox at Coston covert, and killed him near Buckminster Park. We met the hounds as they were coming back to draw Sproxton Thorns; found there, came away, and lost our fox between there and Bescaby Oaks; went to Bescaby Oaks, found and came away to Croxtan Park, back to Bescaby Oaks, and then back to the park, and across by Croxtan Kerrial, where they lost him. I left them drawing Croxtan Banks, but they had not found again.

“The New Black Horse.”

Francis: “Hereford.”

Thursday, March 2nd.

Cottesmore—Teigh.

Found a brace of foxes playing in Stapleford Park, coursed one and ran into him; they did not stop to break him up, but laid the hounds on the other fox, went out of the park, and crossed the railway; he came back, re-crossed the railway, skirted the park and pointed for Whissendine; then bore to the left, leaving Teigh village on the left hand, and Barrow on the left, and went into Barrow Gorse; two foxes came away from the gorse, but, I believe, we stuck to our own fox; came away close by Cottesmore House, leaving it just on the right, and straight on for Cottesmore Wood and into Exton Park, where we lost him.

“Oberon.”

Francis: “Mendicant.”

Monday, March 6th.

Quorn—Widmerpool.

Drew the Parson's Gorse blank; found at the Curate's, came away and ran very prettily up to Great Dalby Wood (22 minutes), had a check, and then hunted on, leaving

Grimston Gorse just on our right, turned to the left for Wartnaby, then bore to the right, and lost our fox near Lord Aylesford's covert. Found again at Shoby Scholes, came away and ran all over the Sixhill country, and lost him near Thrussington Wolds. Went to Walton Thorns, where we found, and for a long time could not get our fox away; at last he went away, up to the Foss lane, turned to the left through Thrussington Wolds, came away by Ragdale and almost to Saxelby village, which he left on his right; bore to the left, leaving Grimston village just on the right and Old Dalby Wood on the right, and, coming back to the left, we lost him at Shoby Scholes. I got a fall close to Dalby Wood. "Oberon" being quite beat, he fell at a small fence, quite pumped out. A good day's sport, and hard day for hounds, horses and men.

"Garibaldi."

"Oberon."


Friday, March 10th.

Quorn—Great Dalby.

Found at Gartree Hill, ran up to Little Dalby, but did not do much. They afterwards went to Thorpe Trussels, but had not much sport. It was a cold snowy day, and I did not stay out long, as my *rib* and *pleura* were rather painful.

"Holderness."

1865—66.*



Came to Melton, January 11th, 1866; there was a sharp frost that night, and hunting was stopped on the 12th for the first time this season; on Saturday the frost went.

Monday, Jan. 15th, 1866.

Quorn—Six Hills.

Found at Walton Thorns, and ran a ring round by Thrusington Wolds, and ultimately lost our fox near Shoby Scholes. Did not find another there, but when we drew Grimston Gorse found five or six foxes, but did no good. It was a wild stormy day.

“Garibaldi.”

“Planet.”

* Horses:—

“Holderness.”

“Planet.”

“Garibaldi.”

“Grasshopper.”

“Mendicant.”

“Oberon.”

“Cheviot:” Chestnut mare, by “Chanticleer,” dam by “D’Egville,” g. dam by “Vampyre;” bred by Lord Hopetoun in 1857; bought of Mr. Beaumont, Feb. 10th, 1866.

Saturday, Jan. 20th.

Belvoir—Piper Hole.

Found at Clawson Thorns, but the day was windy and wild, and we could not do much. Ran a fox up by Eastwell to Stathern and lost him. Drew Goadby blank and the Lings; they found in Bescaby Oaks in the evening and ran to Gunby Gorse. I had gone home.

“Holderness.”

“Mendicant.”

Friday, Jan. 26th.

Quorn—Barsby.

Drew Baggrave Spinneys, Lowesby Spinneys, John o' Gaunt, the Coplow, Scraptoft Gorse and Carver's Covert, all blank. Found in a plantation at Scraptoft, and had some two or three foxes on foot, but they stuck to one, and ran fast by Keyham and Hungarton up to Quenby Hall, where there was a check; soon got to work again and ran across the valley, left the Coplow on the right and pointed for Tilton, then bore a little to the right and came to a check at the corner of Skeffington Wood; bore to the left and came to slow hunting, leaving Tilton Wood on the right, they hunted him over Colborough Hill into Owston Wood. It was about 50 minutes up to Tilton Wood.

“Grasshopper.”

“Garibaldi.”

Saturday, Jan. 27th.

Tailby—Burrow.

Found at the Punch-bowl immediately, and went away very fast to the top of the Wheathill Plantation, where another fox jumped up, and the hounds were halloo'd back to him (the first fox, I believe), crossing the Oakham road, and going away towards Old Bury Gorse. They ran back to Burrow Hill, crossed the valley by Burdett's covert into

Gartree Hill, back again to Burrow Hill, and killed him near the earth at the top of the hill, after running pretty hard for something like 1 hour. Went to Ranksborough, found, and went away directly at a rattling pace for Langham, pointed for Ashwell, then bore to the left nearly to Whissendine; turned back, crossing the road near Rocart, and pointing for Pickwell; again turned round to the left, ran under Cold Overton village and back to Ranksborough, hounds running very hard all the time; he went out again at the bottom of the covert without stopping, ran somewhat the same line pointing for Ashwell, and ran to ground under the railway between Ashwell and Oakham—43 minutes, almost without a check; in a few minutes he bolted, and they ran into him after 6 or 8 minutes as hard as they could go, between Ashwell and Whissendine: 1 hour and 3 minutes altogether—a wonderful good scenting day, and capital day's sport.

“ Planet.”

“ Mendicant.”

Monday, Jan. 29th.

Quorn—Six Hills.

Found at Cossington Gorse; the fox came away to Ragdale, but we could not hunt him. Found at Shoby Scholes, but could not run a yard, and lost him directly. Found at Grimston, but could do no good: a very bad scent, with high wind.

“ Holderness.”

“ Oberon.”

Tuesday, Jan. 30th.

Tailby—Tilton Wood.

Found an outlying fox in a field immediately that the hounds moved off; ran him up nearly to Tilton village, then bore to the left by Billesdon, to Rolleston, on to Noseley, nearly to Hallaton; turned to the left, up to Keythorpe

Wood, where they were on very good terms with him; away again up to the Ram's-head, through the plantations at Keythorpe, where we probably changed foxes, and ultimately ran to ground between Keythorpe Wood and Rolleston, after running continuously for more than 3 hours over a very strong country: a very hard day for horses, hounds, and men, but not satisfactory.

“Garibaldi.”

“Mendicant.”

Wednesday, Jan. 31st.

Belvoir——Waltham.

Found at Melton Spinney, several foxes, and killed one in the covert; we ultimately came away, leaving one, if not two foxes in the covert, as they could do no good with them. Drew Waltham Pasture, Freeby Wood, and Newman's Gorse, blank. Found at Bescaby Oaks, and then came away across Croxton Park, but the fox went back to Bescaby Oaks. Drew the Lings blank, and I then came home.

“Grasshopper.”

“Oberon.”

Friday, Feb. 2nd.

Quorn——Gaddesby.

Found at Cream Gorse, ran by Brooksby Spinneys down to Brooksby House, where they fancied he went into a drain, but they put a terrier through it, and there was no fox there. Went to Thorpe Trussels, found, and went away by Thorpe and Ashby, nearly to South Croxton, and back to Thorpe Trussels, where we were a long time, but could not kill our fox or get him away. Found at Ashby Pasture, came away, leaving Thorpe Satchville on the left, and, pointing for Burrow, turned to the right, leaving Twyford just on the right, and pointed for Baggrave; again Goddard fancied his fox had gone into a hole, and lost three or four minutes, but he

had gone on, and we hunted him to Lowesby, where we lost him: about 50 minutes; 35 minutes up to the check, and very pretty.

“Planet.”

“Holderness.”

Saturday, Feb. 10th.

Belvoir—Saltby.

Found at Herring's Gorse, ran fast through Tippin's Gorse, and over the heath, by Three Queens, nearly to Harlaxton, and came back a ring, killing our fox in the open, near Tippin's Gorse: 42 minutes. Found at Tippin's, and came away the same lines, by Three Queens, to Denton, and after running a ring, crossed the canal, to Barrowby, where he turned back to the right, and ran to ground in the earth on the canal bank, near the Grantham road: 1 hour and 10 minutes. As Cooper was bringing the hounds away, a fox jumped up, and after running a ring round Denton, sometimes very fast, he went to ground in the same earth: a very hard day for horses, and a good day's sport.

“Planet.”

“Oberon.”

Francis: “Mendicant.”

I bought Mr. Beaumont's mare “Cheviot.”

Monday, Feb. 12th.

Quorn—Six Hills.

Found at Walton Thorns, came away by old Mundy's Gorse and by Six Hills; hunted him slowly nearly to Grimston, and then bore to the right for Saxelby, but there was a very bad scent and we lost him. Found at Grimston Gorse another good fox, but could only hunt him very slowly over a fine country, and ultimately ran to ground near Ashfordby.

“Grasshopper.”

Francis: “Holderness.”

Thursday, Feb. 15th.

Quorn—Lodge-on-the-Wolds.

Found at Rowhoe, went away for Kinoulton, and bore round to Widmerpool village, when we lost him. Found at the Parson's Gorse, came away up to the Curate, and away by Widmerpool Inn and Rowhoe to Kinoulton Wood, and down to the canal near Colston Basset, where he beat them. Drew the Parson and Curate again, and Willoughby Gorse, but did not find.

“Garibaldi.”

Friday, Feb. 16th.

Quorn—Thorpe Satchville.

Found at Thorpe Trussels, went away for Ashby Pasture, turned sharp to the right, and ran as hard as possible towards Kirby; bore to the right and ran between Guadaloupe and Cross's Farm, where there was a momentary check, and straight to Burton Lazars, where they lost him in an unaccountable manner in the village: as clipping a 35 minutes as I ever saw. Drew Gartree Hill and Burdett's Covert blank. Found an outlying fox between there and Thorpe Trussels, and ran fast back to the covert, but could not kill him. Went to Cream Gorse, where we found, and came away towards Melton, but bore to the right and ran to Thorpe Trussels again; lost a little time there, then came away by Thorpe Twyford, Ashby village, and after a good hunting run of 1 hour and 20 minutes lost him near Gaddesby: a very good day's sport.

“Cheviot.”

“Holderness.”

Saturday, Feb. 17th.

Tailby—Burrow.

Did not find at Little Dalby. Found at Ranksborough, and after running a little while in covert a fox went away, and was headed back and killed coming into the covert.

Found at Overton Park, and came away pointing for Oakham; came to slow hunting near Oakham Pasture, where they ran hard in covert and came away pointing for Manton; crossed the railway—up to this point from Oakham Pasture there were two foxes before them, and one was headed back into the hounds' mouths at the railway, but Goodall clapped on to the other fox and they ran very prettily over Catmos Vale to Hambleton village and into Burley Wood, out again by Burley Bushes, through Cottesmore Wood, and they killed him in Exton Park: 1 hour and 10 minutes from Overton Park.

“Planet.”

“Mendicant.”

Monday, Feb. 19th.

Quorn—Radcliffe.

There was a good deal of frost, and I did not start till eleven o'clock. They had found at Cossington and ran a little way down towards the river, and I believe the fox went to ground. Found at Shoby Scholes, and ran ringing about for about 2 hours and 20 minutes, our farthest point being from Saxelby down into the vale between Old Dalby and Willoughby.

“Grasshopper.”

“Oberon.”

Thursday, Feb. 22nd.

Belvoir—Piper Hole.

The whole world came to Piper Hole this morning to see the Prince and Princess of Wales—there must have been at least 2,000 horsemen, and carriages and foot-people innumerable; it was a stormy, wet morning. They trotted off straight to Hose Gorse, found a fox who came away almost directly pointing for Long Clawson, ran very straight and at a fairish pace up nearly to Piper Hole Gorse, turned to

the right by Clawson Thorns nearly to Holwell Mouth, and then back towards Clawson, and was killed in Clawson village—40 minutes; the ground was fearfully deep, and the pace very good; the Prince rode a very clever chestnut mare, and went uncommonly well. Found a second fox in Harby Covert, and came away a good pace up nearly to Stathern Point, turned round to the right, and ran back towards Hose, leaving Hose village on the right, pointed for Hickling, then bore to the left, and coming round, was killed near Harby village—1 hour and 5 minutes, very fast considering the state of the ground, which was awfully deep—and a very hard day for men and horses; the Prince went very well, and over an uncommonly stiff country.

“Planet.”

“Cheviot.”

George: “Garibaldi.”

On Friday the *Belvoir* hounds met at Weaver's Lodge. I was not able to go, but George went and rode “Holderness.” The Prince of Wales hunted, and they had another good day's sport.

Saturday, Feb. 24th.

Belvoir——Belvoir.

The hounds met before the gallery windows for the Prince and Princess of Wales to look at them before starting for London. I stayed to see them plant two trees, and, having taken leave of their Royal Highnesses, joined the hounds in Barkston Wood about two o'clock. They ran about the woods and plantations all the afternoon, but without much sport.

“Mendicant.”

“Grasshopper.”

Monday, Feb. 26th.

Quorn—Old Dalby.

Found at Old Dalby Wood and went away down into the vale towards Broughton, came back and ran to ground near Old Dalby village. Found at Grimston Gorse, went away at a good pace by Little Belvoir and Holwell Mouth, and lost our fox near Piper Hole Gorse. Drew Holwell Mouth, but did not find; went back towards Grimston, and found they had got "Mr. Reynolds" in a bag; turned him out in a grass field, and, after a merry 14 or 15 minutes, killed him near Ashfordby. They went to draw Shoby Scholes, but I came home.

"Grasshopper."

"Oberon."

The *Belvoir* hunted in the vale and the *Quorn* on the forest side, but there was no hunting near Melton or in High Leicestershire till—

Friday, March 9th.

Quorn—Beeby.

Went to Scraftoft, and before reaching the covert got on the line of a fox and hunted him slowly a little way. Did not find again till we got to Cream Gorse (having drawn Barkby Holt blank), a fox came away through Ashby Pasture and into Thorpe Trussels, where a fresh fox went away, but the hounds were 10 minutes behind him, and they hunted him over a nice line to ground on Burrow Hill.

"Planet."

"Garibaldi."

Monday, March 12th.

Quorn—Six Hills.

Drew Walton Thorns blank, and Dalby Wood ditto. Found at Grimston Gorse, and came away towards Saxelby, but could do no good. Found again at Grimston Gorse, lost our fox, and came back and found a third! but there was a wretched scent, and, after trying to hunt him over a nice grass line, gave it up near Wartnaby.

“Holderness.”

“Garibaldi.”

Tuesday, March 13th.

Tailby—Cole’s Lodge.

Drew Prior’s Coppice blank. Found at Lady Wood, and came away in a violent snowstorm, pointing for Branston; then turned sharp to the right, and ran nearly to Withcote; passed Withcote Lodge, and Launde Abbey, through Launde Park Wood, and out at the top, where there was a long delay, and lost him near Loddington: they ran *very* fast up to Launde Wood; a violent storm of snow now came on, and hounds went home.

“Planet.”

“Grasshopper.”

Wednesday, March 14th.

Belvoir—Piper Hole.

Drew Sherbrook’s new covert near Long Clawson, found, and came away up to Clawson village, then pointed for Hose, bore to the left, ran through the corner of Hose Gorse, crossed the canal, ran along the towing path, re-crossed the canal, and ran very prettily up to Broughton, leaving it just on the right; bore to the left, and leaving Holwell Mouth on the right, pulled him down in the spinney below Clawson Thorns: 1 hour and 3 minutes, and a very good run. Found again at

Piper Hole Gorse, and ran down into the vale, and up again to the Harby Hills, where there were three or four foxes, and we did not do much more.

“Cheviot.”

“Oberon.”

* C. Lloyd: “Mendicant.”

Thursday, March 15th.

Belvoir—Croxton Park.

Found at Waltham Pasture, a fox came away into Freeby Wood, and out at the top pointing for Brentingby Spinney, but the hounds were on another fox, which proved to be a vixen, and they were stopped. Drew Newman's Gorse blank. Found at Stonesby Gorse, and ran to Croxton Park, &c. Drew the Lings blank. Found at Bescaby Oaks, but did not do much; then we drew Swallow Hole blank, and Tippin's Gorse, where we found, and ran prettily over the heath for about 20 minutes, losing our fox near Harston Wood.

“Planet.”

“Grasshopper.”

Monday, March 19th.

Quorn—Widmerpool.

Found at the Curate's Gorse, and came away towards Widmerpool village; bore to the left, towards Willoughby Gorse, then bore to the left, and pointed for Grimston village; left Shoby Scholes on the left, and lost him near Rugdale. Drew Shoby Scholes blank. Found at Grimston Gorse, and came away through the spinney, and bore to the left by Wartnaby Stone Pits, where the hounds divided—part running on towards Holwell Mouth, and the body going down into the vale—and ran by Old Dalby Wood, back to Grimston village, across to Shoby, and on for Six Hills. I was not with them after they divided.

“Holderness.”

“Oberon.”

* Mr. Charles Spencer Lloyd, of Leaton Knolls.

Tuesday, March 20th.

Tailby—Tilton Wood.

Killed a fox (that had been caught in a trap) in Skeffington Wood. Found another directly, which was unfortunately a vixen, and they killed her in the covert. Drew Tugby Wood blank; then went to Loddington Redish, where a fox went away directly, and they ran as hard as hounds could run. Left Loddington Hall just on the left, through Belton village, to Allextion Hall (18 minutes up to this point); up to Allextion Wood, which they ran through without stopping, and away at the top pointing for Stockerston; bore a little to the right, left Horninghold village just on their right, to Hallaton, where they came to slow hunting, and lost their fox between Hallaton and Slawston. Nobody with the hounds but Tailby and Goodall till they got to Allextion; I caught them at Allextion Wood; about 45 minutes altogether. There was a mistake about Charles Lloyd's horse, so I mounted him on my second horse.

“Planet.”

“Cheviot.”





